Here at the University of Graz, researchers and students are working on a wide range of solutions for the world of tomorrow. Our scientists develop strategies to respond to the current challenges of our society. The University of Graz is performance-oriented, promotes career paths and offers a multiple award-winning setting for social diversity in a modern working environment – true to the motto:

We work for tomorrow. Come on board!

We are looking for a curious and motivated PhD student to join a **multidisciplinary project** at the **Institute of Molecular Biosciences.** This is an exciting opportunity to work at the intersection of **aging, sleep, and data science**, learning from experts across different fields and develop new methods. This project is funded by Federal Ministry of Women, Science and Research (BMFWF) and the Austrian Science Fund (FWF) to develop alternative methods to animal experiments. The objective is to gain new knowledge needed to be able to increasingly avoid experimentation on animals.

PhD Student

(30 hours a week; fixed-term employment for the period of 3 years; Earliest start date: April 1st, 2026)

Duties:

- **Your multi-disciplinary work will focus on three main areas: i)** Behaviour, Aging & Disease**, ii)** Sleep Physiology**, iii)** Data Science & Machine Learning (Principal investigator: Dr.rer.nat. Jelena Tadic, Co-supervisor Assoz. Prof. Tobias Eisenberg)
- The PhD candidate will spend three months at the Netherlands Institute for Neuroscience in Amsterdam, the Netherlands (Mentor: Dr.rer.nat. Alejandro Forero-Osorio, Laboratory group of Eus van Someren)
- Co-operation with established research groups and the core facilities at the Institute of Molecular Biosciences
- Scientific writing and publication activities

Your profile

The project is highly collaborative, and you will gain hands-on experience in the development of new **experimental and computational approaches** to study sleep. Ideally, you have some background in neuroscience, computing, or experience with machine learning. Above all, a strong interest in learning and collaborating across disciplines is desirable. We are excited to hear from students who are ready to grow in a supportive, multidisciplinary environment.

- Master's degree or equivalent diploma in Neuroscience, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Biology, Physics, or a computational discipline, with an emphasis on sleep, aging, or computational methods
- Practical knowledge in behavioural studies, working with mice
- Experience in sleep and circadian field
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills in English
- German language skills (not essential)
- Independent and self-responsible way of working
- Motivated interdisciplinary researcher contributing to sleep and aging research through the development of new alternative methods to animal experiments
- Willingness to work with animal models
- Creative, Reliable & Flexible

Our offer

Classification

Salary scheme of the Universitäten-KV (University Collective Agreement): B1

Minimum salary

The minimum salary as stated in the collective agreement and according to the classification scheme is EUR 2.832,10 gross/month. This minimum salary may be higher due to previous employment periods eligible for inclusion and other earnings and remunerations.

We offer you a job with a lot of responsibility and variety. You can expect an enjoyable work climate, flexible work hours and numerous possibilities for further education and personal development (attendance of workshops or summer schools). Take advantage of the chance to enter into a challenging work environment full of team spirit and enthusiasm for your job.

Application Deadline: **February 15th 2026**

The University of Graz strives to increase the proportion of women in particular in management and faculty positions and therefore encourages qualified women to apply.

Especially with regard to academic staff, we welcome applications from persons with disabilities who meet the requirements of the advertised position.

If you are interested, please submit your application documents before the stated deadline. Please send your CV, motivational letter and photo to:

jelena.tadic@uni-graz.at