

Work Based Learning (WBL) Placement Description

Host Details

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| Host Organisation | Olivia Newton-John Cancer Research Institute |
| Placement Title | Research technician/assistant |
| Placement Location | Onsite |
| Address (if onsite) | Level 5, ONJ Cancer Research and Wellness Centre , 145 Studley Rd, Heidelberg, 3084 |
| Primary Supervisor Name | Kerryn Westcott |
| Position Title | Senior Scientific Project Officer |
| Host Organisation Website | https://www.onjcri.org.au/ |

Host Organisation Background:

Our priority is to outsmart cancer.

Our vision is to help people live better with cancer and defeat it.

Our mission is to discover and develop breakthrough cancer therapies to provide the best health outcomes for patients.

We do this by discovering and developing new cancer therapies to provide real and life changing benefits for people impacted by cancer.

With researchers based just metres from where people are receiving treatment, our scientific discoveries are rapidly translated into breakthrough clinical therapies.

Our three core [research programs](#) focus on developing treatments for a range of cancers including breast, bowel and gastrointestinal tract, lung, skin, liver and brain cancer.

Emerging knowledge from the laboratory is quickly translated into patient trials, with our investigators overseeing active clinical trials right across Australia.

Observations from the clinic are then investigated by our research team, creating a continual cycle of learning and improvement between scientific research and patient care.

Placement Details

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| Placement Semester/Term | Semester 2024 |
| Start Date | August 2024 |
| End Date | November 2024 |
| Days/hours per week | 6 -10 hours per week |
| Hours (total) | 100 hours |
| Placement Type | Unpaid |

The host and successful student will have an opportunity to negotiate placement start and end dates, as well as days of the week that align to the Term or Semester dates that the student is enrolled in prior to commencing the placement.

Desired Course Discipline/Background

Preferred degree/areas of study: *Currently in the last year of their Bachelor Degree in biomedical sciences/biochemistry/cancer associated studies*

Key Duties and Responsibilities

The Centre for Research Excellence at the Olivia Newton-John Cancer Research Centre has a program of collection of data, blood samples and tissues from brain cancer patients so that we can lead and collaborate in cutting edge brain cancer research. In this project the student will be entering patient data into an ethically approved database to further strengthen our data collection. They will be involved in processing of bloods for storage and in other laboratory tasks involved in the project.

Our goal is to provide the student with a range of experiences during their placement. Our research group is involved in pre clinical laboratory work and clinical research. This may include some of the following:

- Data entry into REDcap database (training provided)
- Review and entry of toxicity data for a clinical trial
- Processing of samples (spinning blood etc)
- Laboratory tasks
- time with our brain cancer research team in our animal research facility to observe research techniques that are integral to our pre-clinical research program
- Opportunity to sit with doctors, nurses and/or the support teams during patient visits

Selection Criteria

Essential:

- *Interest in clinical aspects of biomedical research*
- *Demonstrated ability to work as a team and independently*
- *Good written and verbal communication skills*
- *Ability to use Microsoft computer software programs including Word, Excel, PowerPoint*
- *Minimum lab experience as gained in undergraduate studies*

Desired:

- *Knowledge of the work of ONJCRI (see website)*
- *Willingness to be involved in work involving mice*

Pre-Placement Compliance Checks & Requirements

- Police Check
- Working With Children Check (WWCC)
- Other (Please Specify)
- None

Work Based Learning (WBL) – Subject Information and Requirements

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|------------------------------|--|
| Subject Code | LTU3IND |
| Subject Information | |
| Subject Prerequisites | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completed 120 credit points of your degree• Have 1 elective space in your course plan |

How to Apply

Application Deadline: 22 May 2024

Application Instructions:

Please provide:

- CV/Resume

- Cover letter. Please address why you are interested in this placement opportunity.
- Apply through the following link: [Industry Placement Application Form, Careers and Opportunities, La Trobe University](#)

A live interview (online or in person) will be required prior to offering a placement. The supervisor may require a subsequent face to face meeting before offering placement.

For help with your cover letter and resume - [Resumes and job applications, Careers and Opportunities, LTU](#)

Thank you for considering a Work Based Learning Placement!