**Science Laboratory Assistant - GCAS Internship**

*Supporting our Phytoplankton Monitoring project*

GCAS reference number ‘**GCAS534’**

**How to apply:**

You must be a member of the GCAS Talent Pool before you can apply for internships: <https://gcas.co.uk/graduates/what-we-offer>

Please ensure that you have read the details below thoroughly before submitting your application.

For support and advice on tailoring your application, please visit the GCAS website: <https://gcas.co.uk/graduates/on-programme>

If you have any questions about the application process, please email GCAS@ed.ac.uk

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|  **GCAS Internship overview** |
| **Organisation name:** Scottish Association for Marine Science**Location:** On Site – Oban, Argyll, Scotland, PA37 1QA**Salary:** £18,018.00 per annum working 35 hours per week**Planned start date:** Ideally, some time in **February 2023****Planned end date:** 9 months from start date. (6 months will be funded by GCAS scheme and 3 months funded by science project)**Proposed working hours and pattern:** You will work 7 hours per day over 5 days Monday to Friday. Start and end times can be agreed post interview but ideally 0900-1300 and 1400-1700 hrs each day. Lunch break 1300-1400 hrs**Closing date:** 5pm on 31st January 2023**Application process:** Email your CV and covering letter (as one document) to GCAS@ed.ac.uk by 5pm on the closing date, quoting the GCAS reference number **‘GCAS534’**Please apply as soon as possible in advance of the closing date, as late applications will not be accepted. |
| **Benefits of undertaking this internship** |
| You will develop your laboratory skills working on a scientific research/commercial contract. This helps to build knowledge, learn and apply scientific experimental techniques, support a scientific research/commercial project and also learn from experienced support scientists who will also support your success. SAMS is a great learning base and has researchers, teachers and commercial staff on site to learn from, we will support you to create a CPD record whilst with us, we are very inclusive, friendly and our teams provide a great support structure for those learning with us to help building confidence, knowledge, application and experience to add to your CV. |
| **Description of organisation and internship purpose** |
| The Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS) is Scotland’s largest and oldest **independent** marine science organisation, delivering marine science for a productive and sustainably managed marine environment through **innovative** research, education and engagement with society.We are a non-profit organisation and charity.The internship provides an insight into our scientific research, contributing to one of our research/commercial projects, we will help you to build laboratory skills for commercial purposes – learning techniques, health and safety protocols, understand and follow standard set operating procedures. You will also gain familiarity with scientific equipment which you will operate.We offer a very stimulating environment. Working alongside other research scientists and technicians, contributing to our scientific success. SAMS family culture offers a very supportive and relaxing work experience. It’s also fun! |
| **Main responsibilities** |
| Laboratory duties will include the receipt, processing, storage and disposal of seawater samples and preparation of sampling kit and fixative.**Planning and Organising*** Plan and prioritize workload for receipt and processing of samples on a daily basis
* Preparation of equipment for processing samples
* Preparation of sampling kits and fixative for supplying to sampling officers

 **Problem-Solving****•** Communicate and liaise with fellow workers and technical services within the department• Communicate with external contacts, particularly in relation to erroneous sample collection information• React and deal with any problems arising from equipment failure**Decision-Making**Ability to prioritize workload to make best use of the facilities available, ensuring samples can be analysed within the contractual time frame. |
| **Person specification** |
| **Knowledge, Skills and Experience needed for the Job** * Science Degree
* Some laboratory experience would be helpful
* Ability to follow instruction
* Excellent team working
* Good oral and written communication
* Good personal time management and ability to work to tight deadlines
* Attention to detail, preparation of accurate and timely documentation
* Computer literate and willing to learn and use new software – familiar with Microsoft Office Software package
* Ability to attend on a regular basis and cope with the demands of the job.

**Dimensions – Scope of role** * Generally working on one main project, with occasional additional commercial contributions
* Dealing with large number of seawater samples
* Working within a set time frame on a daily basis
* Ensuring that all quality control practices conforming to UKAS ISO17025 are adhered to
* Health & Safety – awareness of, and adherence to, the contents of all risk assessments and SSWs (safety systems at work).
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| **Any other information about the role** |
| A number of employees come to SAMS and Oban because they want to not only learn but also enjoy a relaxing and healthy lifestyle.We have a number of staff here who enjoy the outdoors and participate in running, hillwalking, swimming, kayaking clubs. Oban area is a great place to participate in outdoor activities or why not join a local club and learn Gaelic, Scottish music and dancing clubs or spend time exploring the nearby islands, some of which are easily accessible directly from Oban. |