ZBiotics Seeking Full-time Postdoctoral Scientist / Scientist I

Position: Postdoctoral Scientist / Scientist I  
Location: San Francisco, CA  
Type: Full-time, salaried  
Start Date: May 2018  
Send Inquiries to: zack@zbiotics.com

Description:

ZBiotics is a Y Combinator-backed biotechnology company headquartered in San Francisco developing genetically engineered probiotics. Our first product (already developed) is a probiotic bacteria genetically engineered to remove acetaldehyde from the body, particularly after consuming alcohol. We are looking to use the same technology and platform genetic system to develop novel probiotics to address other issues of human health and generally protect the body from everyday toxins that cause physically perceptible effects. We are currently looking for a scientist to work relatively independently toward two goals: 1. Improve the platform technology by enhancing, stabilizing, and/or protecting the currently used promoter or developing a novel one; 2. Apply the technology to new applications beyond acetaldehyde removal.

The candidate would work with ZBiotics’ CEO, Zack Abbott (a PhD Microbiologist), to design project specifics. The candidate would then largely work independently at the bench to execute the projects, with as much or as little input from Zack as fits with the working style of the candidate.

This is an opportunity for a scientist interested in synthetic biology to work to build product(s) that can be commercialized quickly on the tail of ZBiotics’ flagship product. We are using real science to solve real problems, and we are not interested in spending decades taking products through clinical trials only to sell to big pharma down the line. This is the chance to build things we can take to market quickly ourselves!

Skills and qualifications:

- PhD in biological field with relevant benchwork experience in bacterial (or at least microbial) genetics, or at least 5 years of similar experience in lieu of a degree
  - All the relevant skills that come with that experience: basic microbial culture and molecular genetic techniques; DNA, RNA, and protein isolation and quantification; primary literature research; data organization and presentation
- Ability to think through and design genetic strategies for gene and protein expression
- Creativity and out-of-the-box problem-solving skills
- Ability to work independently at the bench, although there are opportunities for both scientific community (i.e. you won’t be all alone in a lab) and collaboration with Zack

Please respond with CV and brief (~1 paragraph) cover letter to zack@zbiotics.com describing your specific interest. Note that the title for the position is described as “Postdoctoral scientist” or “Scientist I”. Generally, the title itself is flexible and can be adapted to the candidate’s future career goals. The actual position will be that of ZBiotics’ lead bench scientist.