

Vacancy Notice

The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) aims to be the centre of knowledge on the sustainable management of chemicals, serving a wide range of EU policies and global initiatives, for the benefit of citizens and the environment. Together with our partners, we work for the safe use of chemicals.

The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) is launching this call for expressions of interest in order to establish a reserve list for the following temporary agent profile:

Reference number	Vacancy notice	Grade	Indicative n° on reserve list
ECHA/TA/2019/009	Scientific Officer (New Approach Methods)	AD 6	4

The closing date and time for submission of applications for this call is 26 August 2019 at noon 12.00 Helsinki time (11.00 Central European Time).

1. The Job

The Scientific Officer will work in the Directorate for Prioritisation and Integration of the Agency, in the Computational Assessment Unit. The Unit develops computational methods and tools for collecting, analysing and making available data on chemicals. The tools developed by the Unit help the Agency with prioritisation and selection of dossiers and substances for further regulatory actions, such as compliance checks.

The Unit promotes and uses **alternative test methods**, including integrated **testing strategies, QSAR, in-vitro assays, read-across, categories and other New Approach Methods (NAM)**. The Unit is responsible for IUCLID – the tool used by companies and authorities worldwide for creating and exchanging chemical data. The Unit's international work includes co-managing the **QSAR Toolbox** development with **OECD** and the coordination of the **APCRA**¹ work together with the United States' Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) and Health Canada.

The Scientific Officer will contribute to the successful implementation of the Unit's tasks. The work will consist of the following:

QSAR related activities:

- Execute QSAR expert consultations: expert consultations involve the running of predictive toxicology tools, answering specific questions arising from assessments of human health or environmental endpoints;

¹ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29600706>

- Support the ECHA Grouping Strategy, specifically in assisting the assessment of all available information, including generating predictions where relevant;
- Maintain the knowledge base of QSAR models and approaches;
- Contribute to the development of the OECD QSAR Toolbox;
- Contribute to the development of guidance/manuals for QSAR approaches and/or OECD QSAR Toolbox;
- Support ECHA's Scientific Data Analysis Platform (SDAP) with predictions on large groups of chemicals and constituents.

New Approach Methods related activities:

- Contribute to the New Approach Methods (NAM) projects ECHA is undertaking/contributing to;
- Analyse multi-omics (mainly transcriptomic and metabolomics) datasets from toxicological studies;
- Analyse data generated by ToxCast and Tox21 programmes.

General activities:

- Contribute to the REACH Article 117.3 report;
- Other activities in support of alternative methods as appropriate.

2. Eligibility criteria

The selection procedure is open to applicants who satisfy the following eligibility criteria, on the closing date for application:

2.1. General requirements

The applicant must:

- Be a national of a Member State of the European Union, or a national of the European Economic Area (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway)²;
- Enjoy the full rights as a citizen;
- Have fulfilled any obligations imposed by the laws concerning military service;
- Produce the appropriate character references as to the suitability for the performance of the duties³;
- Be physically fit to perform the duties⁴;

² The Member States of the European Union are: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom.

³ Before appointment, successful applicants will be required to produce an official document indicating that they do not have a criminal record.

⁴ Before appointment, successful applicants will be required to undergo a medical examination to ensure that they fulfil the requirements of Articles 12, 2 (c) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Communities.

- Have a thorough knowledge of one of the official languages of the European Union⁵ and a satisfactory knowledge of another such language to the extent necessary to perform your duties;
- Be able to communicate well in English as this is the working language of ECHA;
- Be below the age at which staff of the EU is automatically retired, i.e. currently on the last day of the month in which he/she reaches the age of 66⁶.

2.2. Qualifications

Successful completion of a full course of university studies attested by a degree, where the normal duration of university education is three (3) years or more.

Only qualifications issued by EU Member State authorities or EEA authorities and qualifications recognized as equivalent by the relevant EU or EEA Member State authorities will be accepted.

2.3. Professional experience

To qualify for this profile, you must have at the closing date for applications a total professional experience⁷ of at least three (3) years acquired after achieving the minimum requirements stated out in 2.2. At least one (1) year of your total professional experience must be relevant professional experience⁸ in the fields listed in section 1.

3. Selection criteria

If you meet the eligibility criteria set out in section 2, you will be assessed on the basis of the following selection criteria. The candidates who are judged to be the most suitable on the basis of the selection criteria will be invited to an interview.

- Your academic and professional qualifications and their relevance to the main areas of work listed in section 1. Preference will be given to qualifications obtained in the following fields: (eco)toxicology, computational chemistry or similar.
- Your professional experience in the range of fields covered, the type and level of work done and its relevance⁸ to the areas of work listed in section 1.

⁵ The languages of the EU are: Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, Irish, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovene, Spanish, Swedish.

⁶ See Article 47(a) CEOS for Temporary Agents, applicable to Contract Agents by analogy, Article 119 CEOS.

⁷ Only appropriate professional experience acquired **after achieving** the minimum qualification stated in 2.2 shall be considered. Where additional periods of training and study are accompanied by periods of professional activity, only the latter shall be considered as professional experience. Compulsory military service or equivalent civilian service accomplished after the achieving the minimum qualification stated in 2.2. shall be taken into consideration. Professional activities pursued on a part-time basis shall be calculated pro rata, on the basis of the percentage of full-time hours worked. A given period may be counted only once.

⁸ Relevant experience should be described in your application.

The following will be considered as assets:

- Experience in managing large international projects related to the work described in this notice;
- Work experience gained in a similar multicultural environment. Preference will be given to work experience abroad.

The academic and professional qualifications, professional experience and knowledge and experience considered as an asset **must be described as precisely as possible in your application.**

4. Interview and written test

If selected for interview, you will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

- Knowledge and understanding in your areas of experience that are most relevant to the tasks set out in section 1;
- Understanding of the role of ECHA, in relation to the REACH, CLP, Biocides and PIC legislations;
- Ability to communicate and liaise effectively with internal and external stakeholders⁹;
- Capacity to rapidly grasp the scientific and/or policy sensitivity of the activities of the Agency⁹;
- Ability to work effectively in a multidisciplinary team in a multicultural and multilingual environment⁹;
- Ability to adapt and respond well to change⁹;
- Good command of spoken and written English.

Your ability to communicate in written English, and the knowledge, skills and competencies related to the job will be also assessed by written tests.

For native English speakers, your ability to communicate in your second EU language will be tested during the interview. As this forms part of the general requirements stated under section 2.1 above, any failure in proving the satisfactory level of your second EU language would lead to your exclusion from the selection.

5. Placement on the reserve list

If you are judged to be among the most suitable candidates, on the basis of the criteria listed in sections 2, 3 and 4, you will be placed on the reserve list. The reserve list will be valid for a period of two years.

It should be noted that inclusion on the reserve lists does not imply any entitlement of employment in the Agency.

⁹ You can read more about the general competencies in place in ECHA through the following link: http://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13602/echa_staff_competencies_en.pdf

6. Other information

Before applying, you should carefully read the Guide of Applicants¹⁰ published on ECHA Website. This guide is an integral part of the Vacancy Notice and will help you to understand the rules governing the procedure and how to apply.

Successful applicants may be offered an employment contract for five years as a temporary agent. This contract may be renewed for a definite period. If renewed for a second time, the contract becomes indefinite. If the successful applicant from the external selection procedure is already a member of temporary staff 2(f) in the relevant function group or another function group, the Agency shall offer the person, in writing, the opportunity to be assigned to the post by means of mobility under the provisions of Article 6(2)¹¹ or, subject to the establishment plan availabilities, Article 10¹¹ respectively, if the person prefers to ensure continuity of contracts.

The minimum number of years of professional experience required after the award of the qualification certifying the completion of the level of studies required as a condition of eligibility for any selection procedure is as follows:

Grade of engagement	Number of years of professional experience
AD5	0 years
AD6	3 years
AD7	6 years
AD8	9 years
AD9/10	12 years
AD11/12	15 years
AST1	0 years
AST2	1 year
AST3	3 years
AST4	6 years

For the purposes of determining professional experience, the appointing authority shall allow 24 months' additional seniority of step in grade for professional experience equal to more than the number of years indicated below:

Function group and grade	Minimum years of work experience for additional seniority
AD14-AD16	21 years
AD12-AD13	18 years
AD9-AD11	15 years
AD8	12 years
AD7	9 years
AD6	6 years
AD5	3 years
AST4	12 years
AST3	9 years
AST2	6 years
AST1	3 years

¹⁰ http://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13602/general_guide_for_applicants_en.pdf

¹¹ Implementing rules on the procedure governing the engagement and use of temporary staff under Article 2(f) of the CEOS:
http://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/21844190/mb_27_2015_final_annex_1c_use_and_engagement_temporary_agents_en.pdf

The successful applicant will be required to make a declaration of commitment to act independently in the public interest and to make an annual declaration with respect to any interests which might be considered prejudicial to his/her independence. Moreover, before recruiting a member of staff, ECHA's Executive Director will examine whether the applicant has any personal interest which may impair his/her independence or any other conflict of interest. To that end, the applicant, using a specific form, shall inform the Executive Director of any actual or potential conflict of interest. Applicants must confirm their willingness to do so in their application.

The successful candidate will be recruited as a Temporary Agent Grade AD 6 with the basic monthly salary starting from € 5.416,58, subject to an annual review of remuneration provided for in Article 65(1) of the Staff Regulations. ECHA offers, in addition to the basic salary, a range of benefits which include allowances, such as a household allowance, an expatriation allowance (16% of the basic salary) and a dependant child allowance, as well as a welfare package including pension scheme, medical and accident coverage. For more information on the salary and on the allowances, please visit our website at: <http://www.echa.europa.eu/about-us/jobs/what-we-offer>.

For more information on the selection process of temporary agents and on the contractual and working conditions, please, refer to:

- Guide for Applicants:
http://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13602/general_guide_for_applicants_en.pdf
- Implementing rules concerning temporary agents:
http://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/21844190/mb_27_2015_final_annex_1c_use_and_engagement_temporary_agents_en.pdf
- Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Communities:
<http://eurlex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CONSLEG:1962R0031:20140101:EN:PDF>

7. Protection of personal data

The European Chemicals Agency will ensure, on its part, that your personal data is processed as required by Regulation (EU) 2018/1725¹² on the protection of personal data. For more information on the protection of personal data, please consult the Guide for Applicants¹⁰.

¹² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32018R1725&from=EN>