



Oklahoma City Innovation District | 755 Research Parkway Suite 423 | Oklahoma City, OK
To apply for this role, please send a resume and salary requirements to
brandi.moore@okcinnovation.com.

Job Title: *Upstream Cell Culture Specialist/Instructor*

Reports To: *Executive Director, Biomanufacturing Training Center Oklahoma*

The Oklahoma City Innovation District is looking for a full-time Upstream Cell Culture Specialist/Instructor to lead instruction in the Innovation District's biomanufacturing training center (BioTC Oklahoma). The Upstream Cell Culture Specialist is responsible for developing and teaching classroom and lab training focused on upstream biomanufacturing processes. This instructor will prepare and deliver course content on topics like cell line selection, media preparation, inoculation, bioreactor operations, cell growth, sampling, and harvesting. This is a 40 hour/week paid, salary position.

The Innovation District, a 501(c)(3) organization founded in 2019, is a thriving, 1.3 square mile ecosystem of collaboration, innovation and economic growth located in historic, Northeast Oklahoma City. The District is surrounded by internationally acclaimed organizations spanning Oklahoma's diverse sectors – healthcare, bioscience, aerospace & unmanned systems, specialized manufacturing, academia, technology and energy, and it stretches beyond its physical boundaries. The Innovation District reaches into Oklahoma's "innovation pipeline" with resources, programming and state-of-the-art facilities to facilitate cross-industry collaboration through the convergence of scientists, researchers, academics and industry experts, all focused on sparking new ideas that create new business and new jobs to further Oklahoma's economy.

BioTC Oklahoma is a state-of-the-art workforce training center for the biopharmaceutical manufacturing industry. BioTC Oklahoma will strengthen US resilience by diversifying geographic capacity for domestic production of critical goods which will also grow the regional economy. This center will enable access to specialized equipment, simulated environments, and curriculum that trainees require to gain competency in the latest industry processes, practices, and technologies, complementing existing education and training providers. This holistic approach will produce viable pathways for gaining stackable, industry-recognized credentials, including in non-degreed career pathways.

MINIMUM EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE:

- Bachelor's degree in science or engineering (biology, microbiology, biotechnology, biological engineering, biochemistry, or related science field)

- 3+ years of industry experience in upstream biomanufacturing and execution of the following:
 - Manufacturing of mammalian or bacteria cell culture
 - Operation of bench and/or production scale bioreactor systems
 - Cleanroom operations and aseptic processing

ESSENTIAL JOB RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Develop course curricula, lectures, assignments, exams, and hands-on lab activities related to upstream bioprocessing
- Maintain up-to-date knowledge on regulations, technologies, and industry best practices for upstream biomanufacturing
- Instruct trainees on proper techniques for aseptic media preparation, operation of bioreactors, cell counting, passaging, etc.
- Coach trainees on critical thinking, problem-solving, and decision making for upstream production
- Ensure trainees follow safety procedures and properly use lab equipment and materials
- Reinforce Good Documentation Practices within GLP (Good Laboratory Practices) and GMP (Good Manufacturing Practices) environments
- Evaluate trainee performance through written assignments, exams, and lab observations
- Provide constructive feedback and meet with trainees to improve competencies
- Maintain inventory of lab supplies
- Ensure equipment is commissioned, calibrated, and functioning optimally
- Identify and support troubleshooting activities on equipment-related issues
- Stay current on latest cell lines, media, instruments, and operating techniques
- Continuously improve curricula based on trainee feedback, employer needs, and innovations in the field

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS & REQUIREMENTS:

- Proficiency with general computer skills (e.g. Microsoft Office, Excel, Word, PowerPoint)
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Strong organization, preparation, and presentation abilities
- Experience developing hands-on science curricula preferred
- Passion for training the next generation of bioprocessing professionals
- Exceptional time management skills
- Ability to multi-task and work independently
- Ability to work collaboratively on a team, giving & receiving constructive feedback
- Work closely with other OKCID team members to support event and program marketing
- Perform other duties and special projects as needed

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be able to lift up to 20 pounds at a time
- Prolonged periods of sitting/standing at a desk and working on a computer
- May be required to stand for extended periods

HOURS, COMPENSATION & BENEFITS:

- This position is Full Time | 40+ hours/week, Monday – Friday; occasional nights, weekends or extended hours
- \$70,000 - \$80,000 based on experience
- Benefits include healthcare, PTO, paid holidays, 401K, and professional growth/development opportunities.

The Oklahoma City Innovation District/BioTC is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or protected veteran status.