Postdoctoral researcher in molecular modeling and machine learning

> Entity/Service: Institute of Chemistry of Nice (ICN, UMR 7272 CNRS - UniCA)

- **Recruitment type: contract employee (1y renewable temporary contract, CDD)**
- **Category: A**
- **Working hours: full-time**
- **Location: Parc Valrose, 28 Avenue Valrose, 06000 Nice**
- **Job advertisement reference: 2026-.....**

The challenge

Do you have experience in machine learning and molecular simulation ?
We're looking for our future postdoctoral researcher!

Join us at Université Côte d'Azur, recognized since 2016 for its scientific and educational excellence, to create a responsible and innovative university to serve as a model for the 21st century.

Within ICN, the ChemSenSim group (https://lab.chemsensim.fr/) develops interdisciplinary research projects on the molecular basis of chemical senses (smell and taste). You will be responsible for the design and optimization of machine learning algorithms and virtual screening protocols to decipher the combinatorial code of chemosensory perception.

Your missions

In this context, we are recruiting a postdoctoral researcher in molecular modeling and machine learning who will have the following missions:

- Design, develop, and optimize molecular and numerical simulation calculations (molecular dynamics, docking, machine learning, …)
- Perform virtual screening (receptor-based and ligand-based approaches) of chemosensory receptors (GPCR and ion channels)
- Interact with team members to implement intensive calculations and with collaborators responsible for the experimental part of the project
- Disseminate research results through communication at scientific conferences and publication of research articles

This job is for you if

- you possess a PhD in computational chemistry, bioinformatics, or a related field
- you have mastered molecular modeling techniques, machine learning algorithms, and programming languages like Python
- you are highly collaborative, with excellent communication skills and a passion for interdisciplinary research
- you like tackling complex problems, working at the interface of biology, chemistry, and computer science, and publishing your results in top-tier journals

Your professional background

Candidate profile:

Postdoctoral researcher with experience in modeling complex biological systems, particularly membrane-bound systems where chemosensory receptors (GPCR and ion channels) are located, with excellent Python programming skills and an open mind willing to be integrated into a highly interdisciplinary collaborative environment.

It is essential that the candidate has skills in:
- Molecular simulation and virtual screening (molecular dynamics, docking, …)
- Machine learning
- Data analysis

Ideally, the candidate will have experience in:
- Neuroscience or molecular biology
- Cheminformatics libraries (RDKit, …)
- High-performance computing (HPC)

The candidate should also have:
- Good interpersonal and writing skills
- Adaptability
- Project management knowledge
- Excellent command of English

Compensation and benefits

- Contractual remuneration (excluding variable compensation): 2600-4000 € gross per month depending on your profile
- Vacation: 45 days annual leave
- Tickets for entertainment and outings at preferential rates
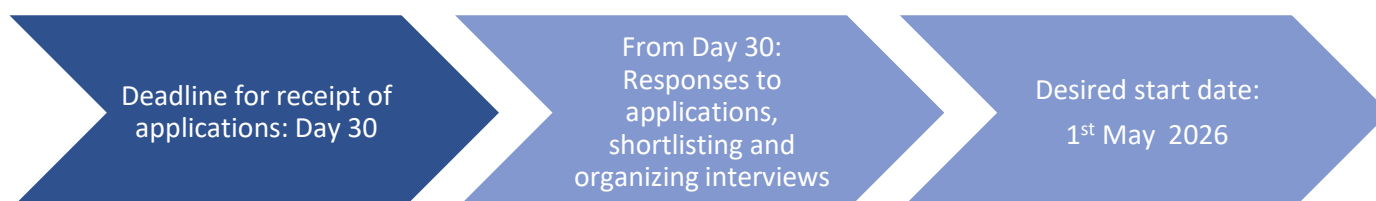
The work environment

The Valrose Campus in Nice is a vibrant scientific hub nestled in a beautiful park, home to the Institute of Chemistry of Nice (ICN) and a hotspot for interdisciplinary research in chemistry, biology, mathematics and physics.
The little extras : Free parking, Wooded park, Sports complex/Library access, ….

How to apply

Interested in this ad? Don't hesitate! Apply now by email to: sebastien.fiorucci@univ-cotedazur.fr For any questions regarding the research project, candidates can contact sebastien.fiorucci@univ-cotedazur.fr
Your application should include a CV and cover letter, which we will read carefully.

Recruitment calendar:

Deadline for receipt of applications: Day 30

From Day 30: Responses to applications, shortlisting and organizing interviews

Desired start date: 1st May 2026

UNIVERSITÉ CÔTE D'AZUR

Open to Europe and to the world, Université Côte d'Azur coordinates higher-education and research activities in the Côte d'Azur region and has created an environment where education, research and innovation meet the highest standards. While engaged in a deep and ongoing transformation of its role and organization, Université Côte d'Azur is also a dynamic leader in the local region known for its exceptional quality of life between sea and mountains. In this context, Université Côte d'Azur is recognized for its excellence and is committed to human-centered values, socially engaged, and ethically responsible.

> Key figures

36 116 Students

21 Component education institutions including 8 Graduate Schools and 6 associate components

60 Laboratories and research

5432 Permanent employees

including 1,809 faculty, 1,347 administrative staff plus around 2,276 lecturers and fellow researchers at CNRS, INSERM, OCA, Inria, INRAE, etc.

> Values

Ambitious
Supportive
Demanding
VALUES
Welcoming
Responsible
Committed
Creative

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WHY JOIN US ?

> A socially committed university

- Disability support
- Gender equality
- Quality of life at work
- Scientif ethics and integrity
- Prevention of discriminations
- Eco-responsible campuses

> Our benefits

- Numerous skills development programs: training and advice on careers and mobility
- Up to 2 days of telework per week, subject to the needs of the service
- 45 days of annual leave per year (full-time)
- Sustainable mobility allowance (for cycling, carpooling)
- Partial reimbursement of public transport costs
- Partial coverage of supplementary medical insurance
- Sporting activities, cultural events and social clubs
- Staff cafeteria
- Full range of French social benefits
- Parenting support

Are you our next hire?

UNIVERSITE COTE D'AZUR is hiring

10 good reasons to join us

> Current job opportunities

- All our job offers are available on the web Working at Université Côte d'Azur
- All our positions are open to people with disabilities

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