Research Scientist, Gene Editing

Job description: Research Scientists who specialize in gene editing participate in all aspects of preclinical development work in new, targeted delivery systems using CRISPR gene therapy to treat diseases such as lung cancer. They design and evaluate gene and cell delivery systems including adeno-associated virus and lipid nano particles in experimental models. The Research Scientist is also involved in the development of proof-of-concept and preclinical studies for other solid cancers. These scientists also present research findings, including preparation of research reports and abstracts, and share them at national and international scientific conferences and in peer-reviewed scientific journals.

Education required: PhD in cancer biology, molecular biology, cell biology, biochemistry, or a closely related field.

Job outlook: The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects demand for biochemists to grow 4 percent from 2019 to 2029, about as fast as the average for all occupations. Biochemists and biophysicists will continue to be needed to use the knowledge they have gained from basic research to develop biological products and processes that improve people’s lives.

Salary range: $60,000 - $110,000

Classes to take in middle and high school in order to get a head start:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Statistics
- Math
- Writing

Skill Builders:

- Interest in laboratory-based experimentation
- Writing skills
- Record keeping and documentation
- Problem solving skills
- Time management