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Senior Associate Scientist, mRNA Process Development

Company Overview

Strand Therapeutics is an early-stage biotechnology company utilizing synthetic biology to genetically program mRNA to deliver truly revolutionary immunotherapies.

Building on the idea of creating smart therapies that are capable of making sophisticated decisions, Strand was started by biological engineers working together at MIT who were seeking to apply the concept of the emerging field of mRNA therapeutics. This collaboration led them to build their own mRNA "programming language," creating the world's first platform for mRNA smart therapies.

The founders and scientific advisors of Strand Therapeutics are made up of well-known and highly regarded individuals in both academia and the biotech industry. We are located in the heart of Kendall Square in Cambridge, MA.

Become the next standout single *strand*!

Job summary

Strand is looking to build a team that understands the value of working at a start-up. Joining Strand now places you alongside the founding executive team and world-leading advisors. We are looking for people who have the enthusiasm and motivation to be a highly contributing member of a small team. This opportunity will offer the employee the ability to work closely with the founding team, as well as to form close partnerships with team members during the initial growth stage of Strand.

We are looking for a highly motivated and innovative candidate for the role of Senior Associate Scientist, mRNA Process Development. The expectation is that the Senior Associate Scientist will have experience independently executing mRNA process development experiments and production efforts. Reporting to the Director of mRNA Process Development, the right candidate will be a strategic thinker that brings a leadership presence and enthusiasm for Strand along with a desire to conquer new challenges.

You are someone who is:

- Looking to develop as a scientist and problem-solver and become an integral part of Strand's process development efforts.
- Searching for an opportunity to grow within an early-stage company and help invent the next generation of gene therapies.
- Willing to learn new skills as your role progresses within the organization.
- Learns quickly on the job and can take up new and exciting projects without much oversight.

Some of the work you will be doing:

About the role:

- Responsible for execution of mRNA production and purification development activities appropriate for GMP manufacturing.
- Assist in development of automated production processes.
- Support screening, optimization, and scale-up efforts for enzymatic reactions, chromatographic separations and filtration processes including, ultrafiltration, diafiltration, and sterile filtration.
- Assist with technology transfer to manufacturing by performing risk assessments, generating/reviewing development reports, reviewing master batch records, and providing technical support.
- Assist with production of materials for formulation and discovery experiments
- Execute studies for process improvements and advancements.
- Contribute to the technical review of supporting documents, reports, and change controls, including CMC sections for regulatory filings.

Qualifications

- BS with 4+ years of directly related experience. Degree emphasis in Biochemistry, Chemical Engineering, Molecular Biology, Bioengineering, Molecular Medicine, Genetics or related field preferred.
- This position requires conducting laboratory experiments, excellent documentation review and writing skills, and the flexibility to work on multiple projects as needed.
- In-depth knowledge of purification of biologics, specifically mRNA, including process scale-up. A proven track record of purifying multiple drug modalities is strongly preferred.
- Experience with automated systems and programming, high-throughput process development techniques, and statistical design of experiments (DoE) strongly preferred.
- Understanding of nucleic acid chemistry, enzymatic and chemical reactions, PCR, plasmid processing, and standard analytical techniques for macromolecules.
- Proficient with ÄKTA systems and UNICORN control software.
- Track record of completing deliverables within specified timelines.
- Knowledge of GMP/ICH/FDA regulations strongly preferred.
- Experience in working with vendors.
- Independently motivated, detail oriented and good problem-solving ability.
- Excellent organizational skills
- Able to multi-task in an extremely fast-paced environment with changing priorities.

Strand offers a fast-paced, entrepreneurial, team-focused startup environment. We also offer a top-notch benefits package (health, dental, life, vacation, gym, and commuter) and work/life integration. Being part of the Strand team allows you to become part of a small team that supports professional development while working together to meet Strand's goals.

Strand Therapeutics is an equal opportunity employer. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, religion, national or ethnic origin, disability, protected veteran status or any other basis protected by applicable law. Strand does not accept unsolicited resumes from any source other than directly from candidates.

Job Type: Full-time
Salary: commensurate with role and experience