

Medicinal Plants Research Postdoc

Description

Job Description – The Medicinal Plants Research Postdoc is responsible for performing activities related to San Diego Botanic Garden's medicinal plant research, particularly including chemical analysis of medicinal plant extracts, purification and characterization of bioactive phytochemicals, and sharing these data through peer-reviewed publications, conference or special event presentations, and other forms of science communication like blog posts, social media interactions, etc. This position also assists with the monitoring and sampling of medicinal plant collections including cycads, bamboo, and rare and endangered plant taxa. This position will aid in the development of new and ongoing project data relating to the SDBG medicinal plant collections while working closely in an interdepartmental capacity to fulfill job requirements. This position is currently funded for one year with existing federal research and mentoring grants as well as donor designated funds, and may be subject to extension depending on performance and future availability of funds.

Responsibilities – ●Use LC-MS, NMR, and other available techniques to aid in the development of new and ongoing project data relating to the SDBG medicinal plant collection by sourcing material, extracting chemical metabolites, and analyzing these in the laboratory.●Assist with inventorying, mapping and monitoring, and documenting medicinal plant collections throughout the year, and for and during tissue sample collection for laboratory research.●Maintain detailed research records in laboratory notebooks and online documents.●Work with other members of the Science and Conservation department to plan and execute field collection of medicinal plant tissue and/or seeds as required for new and ongoing research projects.●Assist with other SDBG activities and tasks as needed.●Work collaboratively with other departments to fulfill the Garden's mission and accomplish its goals.

Qualifications – **Education & Experience**● Doctoral-level degree in natural products chemistry or allied fields.● Minimum of 3 years technical experience researching natural products chemistry and/or metabolomics of medicinal plants.● Familiarity and comfort working with laboratory personal protective equipment (PPE).● Proven ability to keep accurate and detailed records of research activities.● Proven track record of publishing peer-reviewed scientific research articles.**Work Environment**● Must be eligible to work in the USA.● Must possess a valid driver's license.● Must pass a background check.**Physical Requirements**● Bending, squatting, walking stairs, and hiking on rugged trails (often off-trail) with uneven footing and in variable weather conditions (heat, rain, wind, sun exposure)● Safely lifting and carrying up to 40 lbs.● Standing/walking for extended periods of time.**SDBG Diversity Statement**San Diego Botanic Garden is committed to creating, maintaining and growing a welcoming and inclusive environment. Just as our natural world relies on plant diversity, we believe that cultivating diversity amongst our staff and volunteers contributes to a flourishing

Hiring organization

San Diego Botanic Garden;
<https://sdbg.org/careers/>

Date posted

December 1, 2025

Garden. We are dedicated to ongoing conversations as we celebrate and support the unique attributes of all people.

Contact – Natalie Renee, hr@sdbgarden.org

Post End Date – 12/31/2025

Contacts

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