



UNIVERSITY
OF COLOGNE

Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Doctoral Position: Gene Expression Regulation (f/m/x)

Uhlirova Lab | Institute for Genetics | CECAD

We are one of the largest and oldest universities in Europe and one of the most important employers in our region. Our broad range of subjects, the dynamic development of our main research areas and our central location in Cologne make us attractive for students and researchers from around the world. We offer a wide range of career opportunities in science, technology, and administration.

The Uhlirova lab (www.uni-koeln.de/inter-fak/cecad/uhlirova/) explores how stress-inducible signaling pathways control gene expression and influence tissue homeostasis and longevity. To tackle these questions, we combine the power of functional genetics in *Drosophila* and mouse models with cutting-edge molecular and cell biology, multi-omics approaches, advanced microscopy, and bioinformatics. We are looking for a highly motivated and curious doctoral candidate (f/m/x) to join our dynamic team. You will have the opportunity to lead your own project, contribute to collaborative research, and develop skills at the interface of genetics, molecular and cell biology, and systems-level analysis.

YOUR TASKS

- » To study the crosstalk between transcription and pre-mRNA splicing under physiological, stress, and disease conditions
- » To investigate mechanisms underlying spliceosome assembly and functional plasticity
- » To uncover what renders different transcripts, cells, and tissues sensitive to aberrant splicing
- » To investigate how spliceosome malfunction contributes to loss of tissue homeostasis, premature aging and diseases

YOUR PROFILE

- » Completed Master's degree or equivalent in Biology / Biochemistry/ Biophysics or related areas of Life Sciences
- » Strong background in genetics, molecular and cell biology is essential
- » Motivation, curiosity and creativity, and a strong ability to solve problems through critical analytical thinking
- » Proven ability to carry out an independent scientific project and unwavering commitment to high-quality research
- » Hands-on experience in working with model organisms, preferably *Drosophila* and/or mouse and cell culture systems
- » Excellent communication skills, fluency in spoken and written English
- » Strong commitment to collaboration and teamwork

DESIRED ASSETS

- » Hands-on experience in multi-omics research projects and data analysis
- » Experience with protein purification and biomolecular interaction assays
- » Interest in computational modeling of biomolecular interactions

- » Experience in quantitative image analysis and attention to detail
- » Strong organizational and thorough documentation skills

WE OFFER

- » Interactive and international team with access to state-of-the-art research facilities
- » A diverse working environment with equal opportunities
- » Support in balancing work and family life
- » Extensive advanced training opportunities
- » Occupational health management offers
- » Flexible working time models

The University of Cologne promotes equal opportunities and diversity. Women will be considered preferentially in accordance with the Equal Opportunities Act of North Rhine-Westphalia (Landesgleichstellungsgesetz – LGG NRW). We also expressly welcome applications from all suitable candidates regardless of their gender, nationality, ethnic and social origin, religion, disability, age, sexual orientation and identity.

The position is available from immediately on a part-time basis (25,89 hours per week). The position is to be filled for three years. If the applicant meets the relevant wage requirements and personal qualifications, the salary is based on remuneration group I3 TV-L of the pay scale for the German public sector.

Please apply online without a photo at <https://jobportal.uni-koeln.de> with proof of the required qualifications and the following documents:

- » A cover letter describing your motivation to join our research group and information on your career achievements (1 page max.)
- » Academic Curriculum Vitae, including your publication list and contact information for three references
- » Copies of your degree and qualification certificate

The reference number is Wiss2608-I3. The application deadline is 27 September 2026.

For further inquiries, please contact Dr Esther Wollert (uhlirova-jobs@uni-koeln.de) and take a look at our [FAQs](#).



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH