



**Job Title:** Project Associate, Functional Metagenomics

**Reports to:** Associate Professor (Research), Koita Center for Digital Health

**Area of Expertise:** Microbiomics, Host microbe interaction

**Location:** On-site at Ashoka University, New Delhi.

**Job Description:** Project Associate (Metagenomics)

**Duration:** 1 Year (Extendable to 18 months based on performance)

**About Ashoka University:**

Ashoka University, India's premier interdisciplinary teaching and research university. An institution that has become a beacon of academic excellence in less than 10 years since its inception. At Ashoka, we encourage you to embrace the new, push the boundaries for continuous learning, and adapt to a world of constant change. Because we believe that each Ashokan is capable of becoming a thought leader.

As part of our thriving and committed workforce, you will:

**Be Mission-Driven:** Champion interdisciplinary learning, innovative pedagogy, and academic rigor to transform Indian higher education.

**Think Strategically:** Collaborate with visionary minds to shape the future of higher education through strategic planning and a forward-thinking approach.

**Act Authentically:** Embrace authenticity and integrity, fostering an inclusive and supportive environment where every voice is valued.

**Take Accountability:** Own your work and drive positive change, as an empowering individual seeking to make a meaningful contribution.

**Build Collaboration:** Experience the power of teamwork and diverse perspectives, working collectively towards our shared goals.

**Deliver Excellence:** Strive for excellence in all aspects, upholding the highest standards of academic excellence, student support, and professional development opportunities.

At Ashoka University, we are on a mission to redefine higher education and create a remarkable space where innovation and collaboration thrive. As a **pioneering force in interdisciplinary learning**, we **continually grow and adapt** to stay at the forefront of educational excellence with emphasis on inclusivity and equal opportunity. Our philosophy revolves around **care, well-being, and connection**, which are deeply embedded in everything we do. When you join our community, you become part of an extraordinary journey in which you can unleash your potential and make a meaningful impact. Where education empowers, where innovation thrives, and where excellence and humility coexist. We truly believe the world will enrich itself when there is progress with purpose.

## **About KCDH-A:**

Koita Centre for Digital Health at Ashoka (KCDH-A) is an interdisciplinary Centre, offering robust academic and research programmes aimed at advancing and developing a fresh perspective on Digital Health. It will focus on the convergence of healthcare, genomics, information technology, and artificial intelligence revolutions. KCDH-A aspires to nurture a new generation of Digital Health thinkers, innovators, and implementers through a balanced emphasis on education and research. The Centre will offer strong academic programmes in digital health & informatics, drive research in next generation digital health tools & solutions and create strong executive education in digital health.

KCDH-A is a joint centre of the Trivedi School of Biosciences and the Department of Computer Science at Ashoka University, established with support from Koita Foundation, a philanthropic organisation with a mission to accelerate Digital Health adoption in India.

## **Background**

The science of microbiome has exploded in recent years, thanks to technologies in Next Generation Sequencing (NGS). Advances in genomics and data science are revealing how these microorganisms influence digestion, immunity, metabolism, and even mental health. This insight is shaping the future of medicine by enabling more personalized treatments, such as microbiome-based diagnostics, targeted pre/probiotics, and therapies like fecal microbiota transplants. As research deepens, the microbiome is poised to transform healthcare from a reactive approach to a more preventive and precision-based model, helping people maintain wellness by managing their internal ecosystems.

## **Role Overview:**

We are seeking highly motivated fresh Masters graduate to join a research project on functional metagenomics. The successful candidate will assist in performing in-vitro experiments on microbial community models, metagenomic analysis and host microbe interaction studies.

## **Key Responsibilities:**

Grow and maintain bacterial and mammalian cell lines:

Perform experiments on bacterial cultures to monitor growth kinetics, metabolite production

Isolation of DNA from clinical samples, processing, library preparation for NGS

Perform basic literature searches and data entry with high accuracy.

## **Qualifications**

### **Essential:**

- Master's degree in any area of Biology with specialization in microbiology and/or Cell biology

### **Desirable:**

- Additional degree or specialized training in DNA sequencing, bioinformatics

**Experience (in years):** 6-36 month

**Essential:**

- Laboratory experience with growing and culturing of bacteria
- Laboratory experience with growing and handling of mammalian cell lines

**Desirable:**

- DNA isolation and library preparation for NGS
- Bioinformatics project handling

**Skills and Knowledge:**

- Basic skills in microbiology and cell biology
- Strong ability to work in a dynamic, multidisciplinary environment.
- Any skills in bioinformatics analysis and computer languages such as Python/R will be an additional advantage

**Language Requirements:**

- Proficiency in English (reading, writing, and speaking) at an advanced level.

**Nature of work:**

- Laboratory benchwork
- Data collection, interpretation and presentation

**Location & Travel**

- **Work Location:** On-site at Ashoka University, Sonipat, Delhi NCR
- **Travel:** None

**Remuneration & Contract Details**

- **Remuneration:** Competitive salary of approximately INR 40,000 per month based on qualifications and experience.
- **Contract Duration:** 12 months (tentative), extendable depending on performance

**Start Date:** 1 September 2026

**Application Submission Process:**

**Prepare an Updated CV:** Showcase your professional accomplishments, skills, and experiences in an updated curriculum vitae.

**Submit Your Application to:** [head.kcdha@ashoka.edu.in](mailto:head.kcdha@ashoka.edu.in), and [anindya.dasgupta@ashoka.edu.in](mailto:anindya.dasgupta@ashoka.edu.in)

**Include Essential Details:** Along with your CV, kindly provide the following information:

- Last compensation received (if applicable): We value your expertise and acknowledge the

importance of fair compensation.

- Expected salary: Share your aspirations for growth and remuneration.
- Notice period: Inform us of the time required to transition from your current role, if applicable.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted as part of our rigorous selection process

**Adherence to Deadlines:** To ensure fairness and efficiency, please submit your application by 15<sup>th</sup> July 2026. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

For any inquiries regarding this position, please contact: [head.kcdha@ashoka.edu.in](mailto:head.kcdha@ashoka.edu.in) and [anindya.dasgupta@ashoka.edu.in](mailto:anindya.dasgupta@ashoka.edu.in)