

Postbaccalaureate Researcher Position

Snell Lab, Yale School of Medicine Department of Neuroscience



The Snell Lab at Yale School of Medicine is seeking a highly motivated **Postbaccalaureate Researcher** to join our dynamic team investigating cerebellar function and its role in neurodevelopmental and cerebellar motor disorders. This is an excellent opportunity for recent graduates interested in pursuing graduate studies in neuroscience or related fields.

About Our Research

Our lab is dedicated to understanding the fundamental mechanisms underlying cerebellar function, with a particular focus on Purkinje cells - the main output neurons of the cerebellar cortex. While the cerebellum has traditionally been known for coordinating motor movements, emerging evidence reveals its critical contribution to non-motor functions including reward processing and social interaction. Defects in cerebellar circuitry are increasingly linked to cognitive disorders such as autism spectrum disorder. Using cutting-edge techniques and mouse models, we aim to pioneer discoveries that advance basic cerebellar science and ultimately improve quality of life for patients worldwide.

Our approach is grounded in scientific discovery and basic science, but deeply influenced by interactions with patients, their families, and physicians. We boldly hypothesize and carefully prove, bridging the gap between fundamental research and clinical impact.

Position Overview

We are seeking a dedicated researcher to contribute to our behavioral neuroscience program studying mouse models of cerebellar dysfunction. This position offers hands-on experience with animal research, behavioral testing, and the opportunity to contribute to groundbreaking discoveries in neuroscience.

Key Responsibilities

- Conduct behavioral experiments using mouse models of cerebellar disorders
- Perform comprehensive animal husbandry and colony management
- Execute specialized behavioral assays related to motor coordination, social behavior, and cognitive function
- Maintain detailed experimental records and contribute to data analysis
- Collaborate with lab members on ongoing research projects
- Assist with general laboratory maintenance and organization
- Present research findings at lab meetings and potentially at scientific conferences

Required Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in neuroscience, biology, psychology, or related field
- Previous experience handling laboratory mice (essential)

- Strong organizational skills and attention to detail
- Ability to work independently and as part of a collaborative team
- Commitment to high standards of animal welfare and ethical research practices
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience with behavioral testing paradigms in rodents
- Familiarity with animal husbandry protocols and colony management
- Background in neuroscience or behavioral research
- Experience with data collection and basic statistical analysis

Position Details

- **Duration:** 2-year commitment preferred (minimum 1 year)
- **Start Date:** Flexible based on candidate availability
- **Location:** Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, CT
- **Compensation:** Competitive salary commensurate with experience

What We Offer

- Mentorship from Dr. Heather Snell and experienced lab members
- Training in advanced behavioral neuroscience techniques
- Opportunity to contribute to high-impact research publications
- Professional development support for future graduate school applications
- Collaborative, inclusive research environment
- Access to Yale's world-class research facilities and resources

Commitment to Inclusion and Community

The Snell Lab is committed to fostering an inclusive research environment that values diverse perspectives, backgrounds, and experiences. We strongly encourage applications from individuals of all ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations, abilities, ages, religions, socioeconomic backgrounds, and life experiences.

How to Apply

Please submit the following materials via email to heather.snell@yale.edu:

- Cover letter describing your research interests, relevant experience, and career goals
- Current CV/resume

- Contact information for 2-3 professional references

In your cover letter, please specifically address:

- Your experience with mouse handling and animal research
- Your interest in cerebellar neuroscience and/or neurodevelopmental disorders
- Your career goals and how this position fits into your plans
- Your availability and commitment to the position duration

Application Deadline: Rolling basis until position is filled

Contact Information

Dr. Heather Snell, PhD

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Yale School of Medicine

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Lab Website: www.snelllab.org

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Join us in our mission to understand the cerebellum's role in health and disease, and contribute to research that may one day improve the lives of patients with neurodevelopmental disorders.