



The University of Rostock offers a diverse, varied and challenging position in a tradition-conscious, yet innovative, modern and family-friendly university in a lively city by the sea.

At the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, Institute of Biological Sciences, Chair of Marine Biology, we are filling the following position as of 01.06.2026 on a temporary basis for the duration of the project "MitoCycle" ending on 31.05.2029:

Research Assistant (m/f/d) - Marine Biology

Start date
as of 01.06.2026

Working hours
part-time with 26 hours

Remuneration
pay group 13 TV-L

Location
Rostock

Tender number
P 185/2025

Limitation
limited until 31.05.2029

Application time
2026-02-28

Please do not hesitate to contact us for further information:

HR department:
Lisa Malke
Phone number: 0381/498-1281
E-mail: lisa.malke@uni-rostock.de

Department:
Prof. Dr. Inna Sokolova
Phone number: 0381/498-6050
E-mail: inna.sokolova@uni-rostock.de

The University of Rostock invites applications for a DFG-funded PhD position in the interdisciplinary **MitoCycle** project, exploring how mitochondrial metabolism adapts to rhythmic environmental changes in marine mussels from tidal (North Sea) and atidal (Baltic Sea) habitats. The project integrates ecophysiology, metabolomics, bioinformatics, and chronobiology to understand how mussels optimize energy metabolism in response to environmental cycles

THESE ARE YOUR TASKS:

conduct cutting-edge, qualification-oriented research integrating ecological physiology, biochemistry, and molecular biology to advance toward the successful completion of a PhD (Promotion)

characterize metabolic rhythms in marine mussels from tidal and atidal environments by developing and applying novel experimental and analytical approaches

design experiments to analyze variations in mitochondrial physiology, abundance, and metabolome profiles in response to tidal and diurnal cycles

collect mussels from intertidal and subtidal zones, and maintain them in controlled aquaria for experimental studies

perform mitochondrial analyses and utilize metabolomics tools to identify metabolic profiles and pathways associated with environmental adaptation

collect, process, and analyze data using advanced statistical and bioinformatic tools to ensure data integrity and maintain detailed records

present findings at scientific conferences and contribute to peer-reviewed journal publications

collaborate with interdisciplinary research teams at the Alfred Wegener Institute (AWI) led by Prof. Kristin Tessmar-Raible and Dr. Christian Bock to interpret results, refine experimental methods, and share progress in project meetings.

co-mentor and supervise students or research assistants, working closely with Prof. Inna Sokolova.

THIS MAKES YOU A GOOD FIT:

completed academic university degree (state exam, diploma, master's degree or comparable degree) in Biology, Physiology, Biochemistry or a related discipline

interest in mitochondrial biology, chronobiology, and metabolic adaptation, as well as motivation to learn new methods

physical ability to conduct fieldwork in coastal and intertidal zones, including working on wet and slippery surfaces, in variable weather conditions, and while carrying equipment in the field

strong command of English, both written and spoken (working and publication language)

basic knowledge of German or the willingness to acquire it within a short time

excellent organizational and timely work habits, combined with careful documentation and a strong sense of responsibility

high motivation and commitment to work independently and focus on a scientific qualification project (PhD)

creativity, scientific curiosity, and strong problem-solving skills, especially in developing original ideas and experiments

strong communication and presentation skills for conferences, meetings, and interactions within an international, interdisciplinary team

ability to work collaboratively in a team, including cooperation in laboratory and field settings and in mentoring students

WE AS AN EMPLOYER:

Equal opportunities are important to us. We welcome applications from suitable severely disabled

people or people from traditionally underrepresented groups. We aim to increase the proportion of women in research and teaching and therefore encourage suitably qualified women to apply. We welcome applications from people of other nationalities or with a migration background.

WE OFFER YOU:



30 days
annual leave



Health
management &
university sports



Further training
opportunities (IT,
languages,
professional
development)



Career advice for
young scientists



Mobile working



Annual special
payment/
company pension
plan



Flexible working
hours



Family office



Welcome Center



Mensa - Employee
Tariff



Bicycle Leasing



Opportunity for
Promotion

FURTHER INFORMATION:

We will determine the experience level individually, taking into account your previous professional experience.

The temporal limitation of the employment relationship is based on § 2 (1) Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz.

We look forward to receiving your application (cover letter, CV, degree certificate stating your final grade) by **28.02.2026** at the latest. We can only consider applications received via our homepage. Please send us your documents via the 'Online application' button at the end of a job offer. Unfortunately, we cannot accept e-mail applications.

Incomplete application documents may not be considered in the further course of the selection process.

Unfortunately, we can not cover application and travel costs.

Become part of the team

The Marine Biology Group at the University of Rostock is an international and interdisciplinary team studying the adaptation and biodiversity of marine benthic organisms. Our research combines ecological, physiological, and molecular approaches to understand how marine invertebrates respond to multiple environmental stressors. We offer a collegial and supportive environment, excellent laboratory and field facilities, and strong collaborations with national and international partners — providing an inspiring setting for early-career researchers

Contact

Universität Rostock
18051 Rostock
Tel.: +49 381 498 - 0

Sitze des Rektorats:

Universitätsplatz 1
18055 Rostock

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