

# Postdoctoral Research Fellow – Beta-Lactamase Biochemistry

[Cubist Pharmaceuticals](#) - Lexington, MA United States

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## About this job

### Job description

#### Position Summary:

Cubist is looking for a postdoctoral candidate in the biochemistry group within the Infectious Diseases department. Building upon our strong commitment to antibacterial research into beta-lactams and beta-lactamase inhibitors, this postdoctoral research position will provide a greater depth of biochemical understanding of beta-lactamase enzymes, both their inhibition and the molecular recognition elements that define the spectrum of beta-lactam hydrolysis. This will improve the fundamental understanding of serine and metallo-beta-lactamase enzyme biochemistry and the knowledge gained will guide more informed hypotheses in both the design and characterization of next generation beta-lactamase inhibitors.

This position provides the postdoctoral candidate with the opportunity to study marketed antibacterial agents as well as compounds currently in development at Cubist, while working at a pharmaceutical company well recognized for its commitment to antibacterial research. The core functions will be focused on protein biochemistry, but the multi-disciplinary environment will provide the candidate the opportunity to work closely with the medicinal chemistry, structural biology, molecular modeling, and microbiology groups to further enhance their research opportunities. This research position will provide exposure and interaction with discovery research teams actively pursuing next generation antibacterial agents.

This is a 2-year postdoctoral research position.

**Minimum Basic Qualifications :**

- Ph.D. in Biochemistry or related discipline
- Strong knowledge and experience in enzyme kinetics, assay development and optimization
- Experience in the kinetic characterization of substrates and enzyme inhibitors
- Ability to work with a variety of different assay formats

**Preferred Qualifications:**

- Knowledge and experience with beta-lactamase biochemistry
- Experience in mechanistic enzymology, pre-steady state kinetics, and covalent inhibitors
- Self-motivated, eager to tackle scientific challenges and share knowledge with others
- Independent thinker, willing to take initiative to drive projects forward
- Knowledge of molecular biology for the over-expression of proteins of interest
- Experience in both native and affinity tagged protein purification

**Competencies:**

- Ability to clearly and effectively communicate ideas, data, and concepts, while adjusting one's style based upon the audience
- Proficient at approaching problems/risks/issues with professionalism, confidence, and decisiveness
- Actively expresses thoughts and ideas in comfortable and challenging circumstances
- Engages in active problem-solving, identifies appropriate biological questions, applies different methodologies to drive issues and experiments to resolution

**Work Environment:**

- Laboratory with exposure to minor noise levels with some laboratory equipment

**Physical Demands:**

- Light lifting of laboratory equipment and supplies

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily within the context of the representative work environment and physical demands described above. Likewise, qualifications listed are representative of the knowledge, skills, and abilities required to perform the position's essential functions. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions .

**Cubist is an Equal Opportunity Employer (EOE). M/F/D/V**

## About this company

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Cubist Pharmaceuticals is a rapidly growing, highly respected biopharmaceutical company focused on the research, development and commercialization of pharmaceutical products that address unmet medical needs in the acute care environment.

Cubist currently markets three products. Our first was approved in the US in 2003 and has become Cubist's flagship product treating over two million patients and generating hundreds of millions of dollars in annual sales. Today, we work with strategic partners to make it available outside the United States in more than 70 countries. Cubist also markets the first and only FDA-approved therapy to accelerate the time to upper and lower gastrointestinal recovery following surgeries that include partial bowel resection with primary anastomosis. In October 2013, through our acquisition of Optimer Pharmaceuticals, we added a third product that treats adults with Clostridium difficile-associated diarrhea (CDAD).

We also have a robust clinical product pipeline, with early and late stage candidates including multiple Phase III programs. With our developing portfolio, and our commitment to transforming patients' lives around the world, Cubist is expanding our geographic presence with our European headquarters based in Zurich, Switzerland and a growing commercial base throughout Europe.

Beyond Cubist's scientific achievements, we have received recognition for our sustained growth as well as our collegial and differentiated culture from local and national publications and organizations.

Embarking on a journey to cure with Cubist can lead to endless opportunities. Connect with us on Twitter [@cubistbiopharma](#) and [@cubistcareers](#)

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