

PhD Position in Equine Asthma Research

The Vetsuisse Faculty of Bern is seeking a highly motivated PhD candidate for a project focused on developing and validating new diagnostic assays for a potential biomarker of equine asthma. The study will include both RT-qPCR and ELISA assays and will involve collaboration with experts across different departments at the Vetsuisse Faculty. This project aims to advance the understanding and diagnosis of equine asthma, ultimately improving animal health and welfare.



Ideal Candidate

Qualifications:

- Recent graduate in veterinary medicine or a Master's degree in biology with a genuine interest in animal health.
- Proficiency in English (minimum C1 level); knowledge of German and/or French is advantageous but not required.
- Strong oral and written communication skills for presentations at international conferences and manuscript preparation.
- Nationality: EU and EFTA citizens.

Interests:

- Enthusiasm for veterinary medicine and a commitment to improving animal health.
- Interest in learning new laboratory techniques and conducting wet-lab work.

Skills:

- Strong organizational skills for managing complex experimental procedures.
- Collaboration skills in a multidisciplinary environment.
- Adaptability to work with various techniques and across different departments.
- Basic knowledge of statistics.
- Prior experience in data analysis.

What We Offer

- The Vetsuisse Faculty of Bern is ranked 4th in the QS World University Ranking for Veterinary Science 2023. More information can be found [here](#).
- Competitive salary compared to doctoral programs in other European countries.
- Dedicated mentorship from the Principal Investigator, as well as guidance from experienced professors and postdoctoral researchers.
- A friendly and supportive work environment with a strong commitment to a healthy work-life balance.
- Bern offers a high quality of life and is recognized as an attractive city for expatriates in Europe.

Project Description

The project involves developing and validating specific assays (RT-qPCR and ELISA) for a potential biomarker of equine asthma. This will include antibody production for the ELISA and assay optimization through cell culture and stimulation. A pilot study will validate these assays by comparing samples from asthmatic and control horses.

Additional Information

- **Application Deadline:** 31.12.2024
- **Duration:** 3-year position funded by the Faculty Clinical Research Platform of the Vetsuisse Faculty of Bern.
- **Workload:** 42 hours per week, with 5 weeks of vacation per year.
- **Start Date:** Ideal start in February 2025.
- **Graduate Enrollment:** The successful candidate must enroll in the Graduate School for Cellular and Biomedical Sciences (GCB) at the University of Bern within 4 months of the project start. More information is available [here](#).

How to Apply

Interested candidates should submit their applications, including a cover letter, CV, and relevant transcripts, by the application deadline to sophie.sage@unibe.ch. If available, a reference letter or the contact information of a referee would be appreciated.