

At the **Institute of Biochemistry** ([www.biochem.uni-frankfurt.de](http://www.biochem.uni-frankfurt.de)) in the Department of Biochemistry, Chemistry and Pharmacy at Goethe University Frankfurt, the following position is available **starting 16.01 2026**:

**Research Associate(m/f/d)  
Macromolecular Complexes  
(E 13 TV-G-U, 65% part-time)**

limited to three years. The salary grade is based on the job characteristics of the collective agreement applicable to Goethe University (TV-G-U).

**Responsibilities:**

We are seeking a PhD student to participate in our research project “**Dissecting pre-tRNA splicing across scales: from molecules to cells**”, which focuses on deciphering the biochemical mechanisms of transfer RNA biogenesis and their role in neurological diseases.

Transfer RNAs (tRNAs) are central to decoding messenger RNAs into proteins at translating ribosomes. In addition to their role in protein biosynthesis, tRNAs also serve as signaling molecules in regulating numerous metabolic and cellular processes, as stress sensors, and in tRNA-dependent biosynthetic pathways. We address fundamental questions regarding tRNA maturation using interdisciplinary approaches ranging from cell and structural biology to biochemical and biophysical techniques.

You will have the opportunity to independently design your project and choose from a wide variety of scientific questions and techniques, such as single-particle cryo-electron microscopy and X-ray crystallography, as well as biochemical and cell biological analyses. Opportunities for independent research, particularly toward a dissertation, are also provided.

**We offer:**

- A highly topical research area at the intersection of cellular biochemistry, RNA and structural biology in a well-equipped, modern laboratory environment
- A small team with intensive supervision
- The opportunity to independently design the project and select from a wide range of scientific questions and techniques
- Integration into an excellent, collaborative research network
- Opportunities for national and international collaborations
- Excellent support for doctoral candidates via international graduate schools

**Requirements:**

- Highly motivated candidates with an excellent academic degree (Master's or equivalent) in biochemistry or a related discipline
- Desire to work independently and with personal responsibility
- Enthusiasm for basic research, creative experimental approaches, and scientific networking
- Laboratory experience in protein and RNA biochemistry is essential
- Prior knowledge of X-ray crystallography or cryo-electron microscopy is desirable
- Excellent English skills and enjoyment of teamwork

Electronic applications must be submitted **by 24.10.2025**, via e-mail to [application@biochem.uni-frankfurt.de](mailto:application@biochem.uni-frankfurt.de), **attn. Dr. Simon Trowitzsch**, Institute of Biochemistry, Max-von-Laue Str. 9, 60438 Frankfurt/Main, and should include the following (in a single PDF-file):

- A brief summary of research interests and a motivation letter (max. one page)
- Curriculum vitae (CV), including extracurricular interests
- Master's thesis (if submitted) or a summary (if still pending)
- A copy of your academic transcripts (listing courses and grades; certification not required)
- Names and contact information of one or preferably two references