

Senior Fermentation Scientist

Draths Corporation, located near Lansing, MI, is building a next generation chemical company focused on manufacturing biobased materials for use in everyday products via environmentally friendly and economical processes. The technology platform covers the entire benzene value chain, enabling it to manufacture products that are identical to intermediates used to make nylons, plastics, and a host of other materials. Draths is unique in this capability and is different from companies that are manufacturing biofuels or targeting other parts of the carbon-based chemical value chain (e.g., C-2, C-3 materials). Draths is looking for individuals who are committed to changing the way chemicals are made and who are willing to put forth the effort necessary to enable a growing biotech startup to achieve its technical milestones.

Job Summary

The Fermentation Scientist will be responsible for the technical development of fermentation technology from current batch process to scale-up and commercialization.

Job Responsibilities

- Lead and participate in development of fermentation processes.
- Plan the performance and analysis of microbial fermentation experiments within flasks as well as fermentors.
- Design and conduct experiments targeting yield improvement and cost reduction.
- Validate research and development experiments.
- Optimize the fermentation process.
- Apply technical concepts and experience to complete projects.
- Identify, develop and implement new creative solutions to improve the economics of the fermentation process and generate new intellectual property.
- Establish fermentation procedures to ensure efficient operation and maintenance of fermentors.
- Keep current with scientific and patent literature.
- Effectively collaborate with peers and share ideas and solutions to ongoing projects.
- Mentor/coach less experienced scientists.

Qualifications:

- 15+ years of industrial experience in Microbiology, Biotechnology, Chemical Engineering, or related field.
- Experience with optimization in shake flask and larger systems to support process scale-up to commercialization.
- Successful track record in developing and scaling up processes/technologies from lab scale to pilot plant and/or production scale.
- Flexibility to adapt and develop technical, creative solutions; excellent problem-solving skills.
- Good verbal and written skills, including ability to adapt to technical and non-technical individuals.
- Experience in enzyme utilization, and/or biotransformation.
- Knowledge of Intellectual Property issues.
- Capable of raising the output and morale of colleagues by sharing the genuine joy that comes from doing good research and development to meet significant scientific challenges.

Draths offers competitive compensation commensurate with experience and a benefits package including health, dental, and vision insurance, flexible spending plans, life insurance, and 401k.

Submit your cover letter, resume/CV to molbio@drathscorporation.com. Please use the job title in the subject line of your email submission.

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