The RWTH Aachen University and the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft are family-friendly employers committed to offering flexible working hours and supporting employees in balancing work and family life. The Dual Career Service of RWTH Aachen University offers relocation support for the appointee and family.

Both institutions aim to increase the proportion of women in research and teaching and strongly encourage qualified female scientists to apply.

Applicants with a disability level of at least 50 percent and those with equivalent status will be given preference if equally qualified.

The Faculty of Mathematics, Computer Science and Natural Sciences at RWTH Aachen University and the Fraunhofer Gesellschaft invite applications for a full faculty position. The position is to be filled at the earliest possible date. The appointee will be a

**Full Professor (W3) in Molecular Biotechnology (m/f/d)**

and simultaneously a

**Member of the Management Board of the Fraunhofer Institute for Molecular Biology and Applied Ecology (IME)**

The successful candidate will be the director of the Institute of Molecular Biotechnology at the Department of Biology at RWTH Aachen University, with a research focus on Molecular Biotechnology. Research activities are expected to strengthen the key research area “bioeconomy” and cover, in particular, the following topics: use of biological resources for integrated bioeconomy applications, with an emphasis on microbial and/or plant systems; development and use of cell lines for production and/or material conversion; synthetic biology (cell-based technology platforms); new methods of modern plant breeding and plant biotechnology; biocatalysis; and biochemical engineering.

With locations in Aachen (headquarters), Schmallenberg, Münster, and Gießen, the Fraunhofer Institute for Molecular Biology and Applied Ecology (IME) carries out applied biotechnological research in the areas of industrial, plant, and insect biotechnology, as well as in ecotoxicology. The interdisciplinary organization, its state-of-the-art labs, facilities, and equipment, including bioreactors, greenhouses, and automated production systems, enable the institute to provide a wide range of research alongside complex value chains in bioeconomy.

RWTH Aachen University and the Fraunhofer Institute for Molecular Biology and Applied Ecology IME have been collaborating in the field of bioeconomy for many years. The successful candidate will also be a member of the IME’s management board, which is responsible for the scientific and entrepreneurial management and development of the institute, according to the Fraunhofer model, and in line with Fraunhofer’s overall strategy.

**Duties and Responsibilities**

The appointee will teach courses in molecular biotechnology and related fields in the Bachelor’s and Master’s degree programs offered by the Aachen biology department. Furthermore, the appointee is expected to participate in interdisciplinary collaboration, contribute to ongoing projects at RWTH Aachen, and participate in academic self-administration.

Responsibilities of a Fraunhofer management board member include strategically developing the institute’s business areas, securing the high scientific quality of its R&D activities, acquiring research and development projects, and managing the institute’s operations as well as its members of staff.
**Requirements**

We seek an individual with an excellent, proven track record of achievement in the areas mentioned above, who is able to represent the institute and its areas of expertise in academia as well as vis-à-vis research funding bodies and partners in contract research. The appointee will be expected to have an excellent, internationally recognized scientific reputation and proven success in acquiring external funding. Moreover, the candidate should bring entrepreneurial thinking to the organization and possess established networks in science and industry. Proven success in acquiring contract research projects, especially with industrial partners and public funding organizations, is highly valued. The candidate should have teaching experience as well as comprehensive experience in leading large, interdisciplinary research groups; experience with the strategic planning, acquisition, and implementation of national and international large-scale R&D projects in different business areas; skills in enhancing the efficiency of development processes and in commercializing technologies should be present.

Requirements for an appointment include a doctoral degree and additional academic achievements, such as completion of a habilitation thesis (post-doctoral lecturing qualification), an exemplary record of research achievement, as may be obtained as an assistant/associate /junior professor or university researcher and/or an outstanding career outside academia, as well as didactical and teaching skills.

**What We Offer**

You will be working in an excellent environment, on a broad range of diverse projects, with a high degree of practical relevance. Other benefits include a high level of academic freedom in research and teaching.