



**The Helmholtz Institute for RNA-based Infection Research (HIRI)
Graduate Training Program “RNA & Infection”
is offering several PhD positions**

The HIRI in Würzburg is a federally funded research institution whose mission is world-class science at the interface of RNA & infection biology. We perform basic research into the role RNA plays in pathogens and infected hosts. Our ultimate goal is to leverage the vast potential of RNA as a diagnostic, target, and drug to combat infectious diseases, such as those caused by SARS-CoV-2 or multidrug-resistant bacteria. Examples include developing new single-cell technologies as well as RNA-seq and CRISPR-based methodologies to visualize and interrogate infection processes.

The HIRI Graduate Training Program “RNA & Infection” was launched in 2018 and is dedicated to training the next generation of scientists to become experts in both RNA biology and infectious diseases. The program is **highly unique** by offering fully-funded positions independent of any group or project. Building on this independence, PhD students participate in **lab rotations** in three HIRI groups of their choice and then **select their advisor and thesis project**. Students also receive **structured mentoring and training** throughout their PhD, including short intensive courses in RNA and infection biology, annual scientific retreats, and opportunities to present at international conferences.

For further information about the program and the HIRI, please visit: www.helmholtz-hiri.de

Competitive applicants will exhibit the following:

- Academic degree (MSc or equivalent) in molecular biology, microbiology, biochemistry, cell biology, bioinformatics, bioengineering, biotechnology, or a related field
- Strong academic and scientific track record
- Dedication to work at the interface of RNA and infection biology
- Good English communication and presentation skills (written and spoken)
- Ability to work with people from different backgrounds and cultures
- Highly self-motivated and enthusiastic
- Strong leadership potential

Terms:

Starting date: Fall 2021 - Initial term of 1 year with a 2-year extension commensurate with reasonable progress
Salary: E13 TVöD (50%) with the possibility of an additional 10%
Workplace: HIRI (Würzburg, Germany)
Closing date: April 30, 2021
Interviews: Due to the pandemic, selected candidates will be invited for interviews by video conference. Interviews are planned for mid May.

If you want to become a part of the HIRI Graduate Training Program “RNA & Infection” you can **apply online now** at <https://hzi.opencampus.net>.

The HZI Graduate School as well as the HIRI Graduate Program support gender balance. Women are explicitly encouraged to apply. With equal professional qualification, disabled applicants will be prioritized.

For further information on the program, please contact Dr. Tim Schnyder at tim.schnyder@helmholtz-hiri.de. In case of any problems with the online application system, please contact the Graduate School at HZIGrad.School@helmholtz-hzi.de.