Science Communication Ambassadors

**Salary:** £11.68 per hour (Grade 1)

**Hours:** Hours vary, up to 10 hours per month

**Duration:** Casual staff, flexible contract

**Location:** Oglesby Cancer Research Centre, Manchester

**Responsible to:** Reece Delaney, Communications Manager

**Enquiries:** reece.delaney@manchester.ac.uk

**Job Description**

Are you a Cancer Sciences PhD student looking to gain experience of science communication?

We’re looking to recruit up to three Science Communication Ambassadors to develop digital and social media content to communicate scientific research and help us engage with prospective PhD students. You’ll have the opportunity to share your experience as a Cancer Sciences PhD student in Manchester through written blog posts, social media and video content, printed publications and much more.

We will provide training before you start your role and you’ll attend regular content planning sessions to discuss your ideas for content. This role is flexible and hours will vary throughout the year depending on our need and your availability.

**Key Responsibilities and Opportunities available include:**

* Write blog posts for the MCRC website, including day in the life features, summaries of events you’ve attended or your PhD research areas or interest
* Take part in social media takeovers or Ask Me Anything sessions
* Feature in digital content, including vlogs for YouTube and social media
* Support the MCRC in-person and virtually at student recruitment events, including taster sessions, lab tours and open days
* Attend monthly content planning sessions to discuss and generate new ideas
* Assisting with other digital campaigns where applicable

**Benefits of being a Science Communication Ambassador:**

* Gain experience of science communication and creating digital content for web, social media and video
* Get support from the MCRC Comms team and learn about content production, communications and marketing
* Widen your professional network
* Get paid for the content you create

**How to apply**

Please complete our [short application form](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=B8tSwU5hu0qBivA1z6kad_SJZMpJBOpDsQR_kDdcU1JUMDRDSDdZTktURE1OVzVBUEQ4QVNMMTU1TS4u) to apply for this role.

**The deadline to apply for this role is 13:00 (GMT) on Monday 26 February 2024.**

If your application is successful, we'll email you to invite you to the MCRC to have an informal chat and find out more about you and assess your suitability for the ambassador programme. This is also a chance for you to find out more about us, learn how the scheme works and ask us any questions you may have.

We aim to inform everyone of the outcome of their application a week after the deadline. Please note: if we receive a sufficient number of applications we may close the job advert earlier than advertised.

**Person Specification**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| Skills | * Excellent written and verbal communication skills
* Confident in creating engaging written content for social media and the web
* Ability to write content that communicates complex scientific topics in an engaging and accessible way
 | * Comfortable in front of the camera to create video content, including vlogs, day in the life videos, and taking part in student takeovers on social media
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| Knowledge | * Knowledge and interest in social media and content creation
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| Other | * Highly organised with good attention to detail
* Ability to prioritise your workload and meet deadlines
* Can work independently
 | * Enthusiasm for science communication
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**Science Communication Ambassadors FAQs**

**Who can apply?**

You must be a current PhD student at the Manchester Cancer Research Centre or Cancer Research UK Manchester Centre to apply.

**Can international students apply?**

Yes, we welcome applications from all students. However, you will need to provide evidence of your right to work in the UK and check any limitations on the number of hours you are allowed to work with your UK visa.

**How will I be paid?**

You will join The University of Manchester payroll as a casual employee and submit timesheets of the hours you work each month to get paid. The pay for casual employees is £11.68 per hour. The number of hours you’ll work depends on the piece of content, which will be agreed at each monthly content planning session. We expect you to work up to a maximum of 10 hours a month to help you manage the role alongside your PhD research.

**Will training be available?**

Before starting your role, you will attend a training workshop where we will cover our communication guidelines and share our tips and tricks for creating content.

**What support will I get?**

You’ll be expected to attend monthly content planning sessions where we will discuss your ideas for content and the best format, i.e. written, video, social media.

**I love writing but I don’t have ideas of what to write about, is this a problem?**

Not at all. We’re looking for passionate science communicators with a flair for either written or verbal communication. If you need ideas for topics, the MCRC Communication Team can help guide you along the way.