

## Job description

Post	Apprentice Finance Assistant
Department	Biology
Division	Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division (MPLS)
Location	11a Mansfield Road, Oxford, OX1 3SZ and South Parks Rd, Oxford, OX1 3RB
Grade and salary	Apprentice Grade 01A £22,631 per annum
Hours	Full time (36.5 hours per week)
Contract type	Fixed term apprenticeship for 2 years
Reporting to	James Sturgess
Application deadline	12 noon (GMT+1) on 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2023.
Vacancy reference	166201

## Apprenticeships at the University of Oxford

Becoming an apprentice at the University of Oxford is an excellent opportunity to gain practical experience and training. You will work alongside experienced colleagues, whilst learning on the job and appropriate objectives will be set during the course of the Apprenticeship. At the same time, you will study for formal qualifications in your field.

For more information, please see some of our current apprentice's case studies:

<https://www.apprenticeships.ox.ac.uk/meet-our-apprentices>

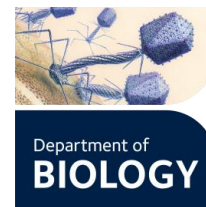
For advice on how to make your application for this apprenticeship the best it can be, please go to:

<https://www.apprenticeships.ox.ac.uk/how-apply>

## The role

You will be required to complete a 24-month training programme that will cover all aspects of the role and will be delivered through in-house training, as well as day-release or other distance learning methods delivered by Abingdon & Witney College. You will complete a Level 3 Finance Assistant Apprenticeship which is within the Accounts and Finance sector.

As part of the apprenticeship you will gain Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT) Professional Diploma in Accounting qualifications at Levels 2 and 3.



College attendance and successful completion of these studies is an essential requirement of this Apprenticeship.

L3 Assistant Accountant Apprenticeship standard.

You will gain skills and experience both in the workplace, and through the completion of a course of study. This is a general Finance role, which means that you will have the opportunity to learn how to complete a wide range of Finance administration.

Practical training period of 18 months plus 3 months for End Point Assessment. The practical period includes an initial fast-track L2 AAT certificate for the first 6 months, followed by the L3 AAT from July 2024-July 2025 and then EPA for 3 months.

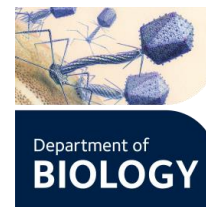
WITNEY CAMPUS ONLY

## Responsibilities

- Learn to process purchase invoices on a daily basis using the University's Financial System (Oracle).
- Assist with expense claim processing.
- Assist in the reviewing the open purchase orders and invoice payment holds and on a regular basis.
- Manually enter research data on a regular basis, to enable accurate recharging of relevant costs.
- Under supervision prepare any necessary adjusting journals with a full audit trail.
- Under supervision assist in raising internal & external invoices according to University procedures.
- Learn to carry out prepayment bursary payments to graduate students.
- Check credit card statements received to ensure that the correct receipts are attached to each statement.
- Learn how to answer straight forward queries on Finance issues, providing basic advice on financial policies and procedures as appropriate, and referring to the Deputy Head of Finance for any complex cases.
- Ensure full understanding of University financial regulations.
- Full training will be provided as part of the apprenticeship.

## Selection criteria

- Educated to GCSE standard (English and Maths grade 4 or above) or equivalent. A-Levels or equivalent would be preferred.
- Ability to communicate messages clearly and accurately on the telephone and in person.
- Able to demonstrate an aptitude for acquiring new skills taught in the Apprenticeship (for example through work experience, qualifications or references).



- Ability to demonstrate attention to detail.
- Ability to work effectively as part of a team; willingness to learn from others, sharing information and communicating in a way which encourages mutual co-operation and understanding.
- Experience of Microsoft Office applications, including Word and Excel preferable.
- Able to demonstrate good time management skills, with the ability to meet deadlines.
- Able to demonstrate a desire and motivation to follow a finance-based career.

## Pre-employment screening

### Standard checks

If you are offered the post, the offer will be subject to standard pre-employment checks. You will be asked to provide: proof of your right-to-work in the UK; proof of your identity; and (if we haven't done so already) we will contact the referees you have nominated. You will also be asked to complete a health declaration so that you can tell us about any health conditions or disabilities for which you may need us to make appropriate adjustments.

Please read the candidate notes on the University's pre-employment screening procedures at: <https://www.jobs.ox.ac.uk/pre-employment-checks>

## About the University of Oxford

Welcome to the University of Oxford. We aim to lead the world in research and education for the benefit of society both in the UK and globally. Oxford's researchers engage with academic, commercial and cultural partners across the world to stimulate high-quality research and enable innovation through a broad range of social, policy and economic impacts.

We believe our strengths lie both in empowering individuals and teams to address fundamental questions of global significance, while providing all our staff with a welcoming and inclusive workplace that enables everyone to develop and do their best work. Recognising that diversity is our strength, vital for innovation and creativity, we aspire to build a truly diverse community which values and respects every individual's unique contribution.

While we have long traditions of scholarship, we are also forward-looking, creative and cutting-edge. Oxford is one of Europe's most entrepreneurial universities and we rank first in the UK for university spin-outs, and in recent years we have spun out 15-20 new companies every year. We are also recognised as leaders in support for social enterprise.

Join us and you will find a unique, democratic and international community, a great range of staff benefits and access to a vibrant array of cultural activities in the beautiful city of Oxford.

For more information, please visit [www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about/organisation).



## The Department of Biology

You will be joining the Department of Biology at an exciting time. The Department established from August 2022 as a result of a merger between the Departments of Zoology and Plant Sciences, and is preparing to move into the new state-of-the-art Life and Mind Building in two to three years time.

The Department of Biology is recognised internationally for its research in a wide range of fields spanning all levels from molecules to ecosystems, and tackling global challenges through fundamental bioscience research. Over time, the research interests of the Department has been focused on five primary themes: Behaviour & Biomechanics; Ecology & Conservation; Evolutionary Biology; Microbiology & Infectious Disease; and Molecular Plant Biology. Research is conducted in all spheres from laboratory and in silico analysis to theoretical and field-based research.

At all times we seek to reinforce the connections between research and our education offering, at both graduate and undergraduate level. The Department teaches a four-year undergraduate degree MBiol course in Biology, with fourth-year students undertaking a Masters-level research project. It also supports a variety of graduate placements and hosts the University's DPhil in Biology.

External research income to the Department is derived from over 50 different funding agencies, with the principal current funders being the European Research Council, the Royal Society, the Wellcome Trust, BBSRC and NERC. The Department has a significant record in integrating broader societal impacts of its research, including the provision of policy to government at the highest level, as well as supporting the commercialisation of research through spin-out companies and licensing arrangements that have generated hundreds of millions of pounds' worth of innovation.

The Department is located in the University's Science Area at two sites, and will move into the new £200m Life and Mind Building in 2024 that will include extensive laboratory provision with controlled environment rooms, glasshouses and an imaging suite. The Department also benefits from extensive facilities at the John Krebs Field Station at Wytham, with Wytham Woods nearby, as well as partnerships with organisations in the area such as the Oxford Botanic Gardens and Oxford Natural History Museum.

For more information please visit: <https://www.biology.ox.ac.uk>

## The Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division

The Mathematical, Physical, and Life Sciences (MPLS) Division is one of the four academic divisions of the University, alongside the Humanities, Social Sciences and Medical Sciences Divisions. It is led by an academic Head of Division (Professor Sam Howison) and an administrative Divisional Registrar (Dr Tracy Gale) and comprises nine of the University's academic departments – Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Earth Sciences, Engineering Science, Materials, the Mathematical Institute, Physics, and Statistics – as well as Begbroke Science Park, the multidisciplinary Ineos Oxford Institute for Antimicrobial Research and an interdisciplinary Doctoral Training Centre.

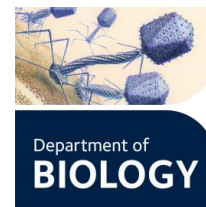
MPLS is proud to be home to some of the most creative and innovative scientific thinkers and leaders in academia, whose interdisciplinary research is tackling major societal and technological



challenges, from new energy solutions or improved cancer treatments to understanding climate change processes and helping to preserve biodiversity, tackling antimicrobial resistance, advancing AI and quantum technologies and space exploration, and much more. The quality and impact of our work have been recognised by successive rounds of the national Research Excellence Framework and Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework exercises, and our departments frequently top the major higher education league tables. We teach around 7,300 students (including around 3,400 graduate students) and are playing a key part in training the next generation of leading scientists.

Divisional activity is co-ordinated and represented by the MPLS Divisional Office based at 9 Parks Road, in the heart of Oxford's Science Area. The Divisional Office, which is led by the Divisional Registrar, has around 55 dedicated members of staff, as well as a number of colleagues who are embedded in divisional teams but based in central University services (e.g. in Finance, HR and Development).

To find out more, please visit: [www.mpls.ox.ac.uk](http://www.mpls.ox.ac.uk).



## How to apply

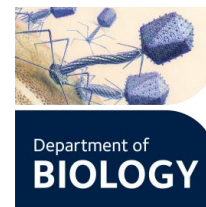
If you would like to apply, click on the **Apply Now** button on the 'Job Details' page and follow the on-screen instructions to register as a new user or log-in if you have applied previously.

You will be asked a series of questions as part of your application. Your responses should explain how you meet the selection criteria for the post using examples of your skills and experience. This may include experience gained in employment, education, or hobbies. Your application will be judged solely based on how you demonstrate that you meet the selection criteria stated in the job description.

All applications must be received by **midday** on the closing date stated in the online advertisement. Please visit our ['How to apply'](#) page for apprenticeship vacancies for more advice and information.

Should you experience any difficulties using the online application system, please email [recruitment.support@admin.ox.ac.uk](mailto:recruitment.support@admin.ox.ac.uk). Further help and support is available from <https://hrsystems.admin.ox.ac.uk/recruitment-support>. To return to the online application at any stage, please go to: [www.recruit.ox.ac.uk](http://www.recruit.ox.ac.uk).

Please note that you will receive an automated email from our e-recruitment system to confirm receipt of your application. **Please check your spam/junk mail** if you do not receive this email.



## Important information for candidates

### Data Privacy

Please note that any personal data submitted to the University as part of the job application process will be processed in accordance with the GDPR and related UK data protection legislation. For further information, please see the University's Privacy Notice for Job Applicants at:

<https://compliance.admin.ox.ac.uk/job-applicant-privacy-policy>. The University's Policy on Data Protection is available at: <https://compliance.admin.ox.ac.uk/data-protection-policy>.

### Equality of opportunity

Entry into employment with the University and progression within employment will be determined only by personal merit and the application of criteria which are related to the duties of each particular post and the relevant salary structure. In all cases, ability to perform the job will be the primary consideration. No applicant or member of staff shall be discriminated against because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.

# Benefits of working at the University

## Employee benefits

University employees enjoy 38 days' paid holiday, generous pension schemes, travel discounts, and a variety of professional development opportunities. Our range of other employee benefits and discounts also includes free entry to the Botanic Gardens and University colleges, and discounts at University museums. See <https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/staff-benefits>

## University Club and sports facilities

Membership of the University Club is free for all University staff. The University Club offers social, sporting, and hospitality facilities. Staff can also use the University Sports Centre on Iffley Road at discounted rates, including a fitness centre, powerlifting room, and swimming pool. See [www.club.ox.ac.uk](http://www.club.ox.ac.uk) and <https://www.sport.ox.ac.uk/>.

## Information for staff new to Oxford

If you are relocating to Oxfordshire from overseas or elsewhere in the UK, the University's Welcome Service website includes practical information about settling in the area, including advice on relocation, accommodation, and local schools. See <https://welcome.ox.ac.uk/>

There is also a visa loan scheme to cover the costs of UK visa applications for staff and their dependants. See <https://staffimmigration.admin.ox.ac.uk/visa-loan-scheme>

## Family-friendly benefits

With one of the most generous family leave schemes in the Higher Education sector, and a range of flexible working options, Oxford aims to be a family-friendly employer. We also subscribe to the Work+Family Space, a service that provides practical advice and support for employees who have caring responsibilities. The service offers a free telephone advice line, and the ability to book emergency back-up care for children, adult dependents and elderly relatives. See <https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/my-family-care>

The University has excellent childcare services, including five University nurseries as well as University-supported places at many other private nurseries.

For full details, including how to apply and the costs, see <https://childcare.admin.ox.ac.uk/>

## Disabled staff

We are committed to supporting members of staff with disabilities or long-term health conditions. For further details, including information about how to make contact, in confidence, with the University's Staff Disability Advisor, see <https://edu.admin.ox.ac.uk/disability-support>

## Staff networks

The University has a number of staff networks including the Oxford Research Staff Society, BME staff network, LGBT+ staff network and a disabled staff network. You can find more information at <https://edu.admin.ox.ac.uk/networks>

## The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club

The University of Oxford Newcomers' Club is an organisation run by volunteers that aims to assist the partners of new staff settle into Oxford, and provides them with an opportunity to meet people and make connections in the local area. See [www.newcomers.ox.ac.uk](http://www.newcomers.ox.ac.uk).

