



**University
of Manitoba**

Faculty of Science

MSc Position in Plant Systems Biology

Wilkins Lab

Department of Biological Sciences
University of Manitoba
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Plant Systems Biology Group (www.oliviawilkinslab.com)

The MSc student will join a multi-year (2023-2026), multi-institutional project funded through the NSERC-FRQNT NOVA grants program. The interdisciplinary project includes a team of early career researchers and trainees working together to study the role of posttranslational modifications in gene regulation.

The University of Manitoba is part of the U15 Group of Canadian Research Universities and is in the diverse and accessible [City of Winnipeg](#). There are vibrant genetics, biochemistry, and plant biology communities at UM and there will be abundant opportunities for trainees to interact with collaborators on this project at UQAM.

Research and training

For this project, the MSc student will use a variety of plant molecular biology, biochemistry, physiology, and computational biology methods to characterize and engineer changes in transcription factor activity in response to high temperature stressors. The MSc will work with the team and independently to develop skills in these areas.

This project is expected to be collaborative from start to finish, and so the MSc candidate will be expected to cultivate skills in project management and within-team communication, scientific writing, and oral presentations. All trainees will be required to participate in team meetings, to share data and progress, and to take ownership of their research questions.

Applicant Qualifications

1. Ability to work independently and as a member of a team.
2. Desire to learn and develop skills as scientist, writer, and communicator.
3. Ability to perform experiments precisely and correctly according to laboratory protocols.
4. Ability to manage time and efforts to ensure that the goals of their project and graduate program are being met.
5. Ability to communicate freely and clearly with their supervisor and lab mentors with results, errors, delays, etc.
6. BSc in molecular biology, biochemistry, or genetics or equivalent
7. Ideally, hands on experience in a research laboratory environment.



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Funding

Student stipends will be consistent with the NSERC standard. All trainees are strongly encouraged to apply for external scholarships for which they are eligible. In addition to federal scholarships (e.g. NSERC), Research Manitoba, and UM offer internal awards to qualified applicants.

Application Process

Interested applicants should send their CV, transcripts, and a letter stating their interest in this position to Olivia.wilkins@umanitoba.ca.

Only shortlisted candidates will have their references solicited and will be invited to participate in a Zoom meeting.

Review of applications will begin on April 30th, and position will remain open until a suitable candidate has been identified.

Position Start Date

September 1, 2023 or January 1, 2024

Details for formal applications (post-selection by Wilkins Lab)

Application details: <https://umanitoba.ca/explore/programs-of-study/biological-sciences-msc>

UM deadlines for admission are as follows:

- Canadian and US applicants
 - September start – June 1st
 - January start – October 1st
- International applicants
 - January start – July 1st