



Environmental Chemist

UKRI – NERC – BGS

Keyworth, Nottingham

£30,782 to £33,459 per annum (depending on qualifications and experience)

Full-Time – 37 hours a week (a range of flexible working options may be available)

Fixed Term Appointment (3 years)

About us

The British Geological Survey (BGS) is an applied geoscience research centre that is housed in UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) and affiliated to the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC). It is a world leading geological survey that provides a core science mission to inform government of science related to the subsurface and its interfaces and also undertakes applied research for solutions to earth and environmental processes, both in the UK and globally. It is funded directly by UKRI as well as through research grants and via private sector contracts.

BGS has an annual budget of approximately £60 million and employs 650 people. It has two main sites, a head office in Keyworth near Nottingham and the Lyell Centre, which is a joint collaboration with Heriot Watt University in Edinburgh. BGS works with more than 150 private sector organisations as well as having close links with 40 universities and sponsors approximately 100 PhD students each year.

We have an opportunity for a talented and motivated Environmental Chemist to join the BGS Inorganic Geochemistry Group based in our headquarters in Keyworth, Nottingham.

About the role

The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the continued realignment of the laboratory for changing scientific and commercial priorities to explore biogeochemistry pollutant pathways and food security projects.

The post will require the operation of ICP-MS instruments for specialist applications, including element speciation; experimental design for understanding geochemical pathways of potentially harmful elements or micronutrients, using tracer methods.

The post will involve overseas fieldwork for Geochemistry and Health projects in Africa as well as handling complex instrument software, statistical packages and contributing to grant proposals with our network of collaborators in the UK and overseas.

The main tasks of this role will be to:

- Carry out Inorganic Chemistry analyses, encompassing the operation, scheduling/use of staff resources and maintenance of key ICP-MS instruments.



- To grow an external network to develop the outputs of the laboratory, contribute to strategy development and funding opportunities within Inorganic Geochemistry.
- To contribute to training overseas visitors to the Keyworth site and carry out training to stakeholders whilst on overseas fieldwork trips.
- To lead on and contribute to external peer-review publications in order to support the successful realignment of the laboratory to the new BGS Science Strategy.

About you

Candidates should have a postgraduate qualification in Environmental Sciences/Chemistry **and/or** at least three years' relevant work experience.

The post would suit a self-motivated person with excellent communication skills and who is willing to be an active team player – as the team needs greater capability for experimental design, higher value and more complex laboratory analyses with interpretation to enable it to target research oriented funding and continue to build a strong peer review track record.

Please also refer to the specific essential and desirable skills criteria for this post. To be considered for a salary at the higher end of the advertised range, you will need to demonstrate a significant amount of the desirable criteria listed.

What we offer

A generous benefits package is also offered, including a very competitive pension scheme, 30 days annual leave plus bank holidays, free parking and access to flexi-time.

We also offer the 'Bike to Work' scheme, free parking, health and wellbeing support, social clubs and on-site sports facilities.

Please note that any internal BGS staff applying for this post would, if successful, be appointed to new UKRI Terms and Conditions and pay.

How to Apply

Applicants are required to include a cover letter outlining their suitability for this role. We would stress the importance of this paperwork in our selection process. **A well thought through application addressing the advertised essential and desirable criteria for the post will be considered far more favourably than a generic covering letter and CV.**

Applications are being handled by UK Shared Business Services, to apply please visit our job board at http://www.topcareer.jobs/Vacancy/irc249539_9456.aspx

Applicants who are unable to apply online should contact us by telephone on +44 (0)1793 867000.

Closing date for receipt of applications is 5 July 2019. Interviews will take place in mid July 2019 in Keyworth.



BGS provides a range of flexible working options including flexible working patterns, compressed hours and home working so if you have a need for flexibility, please raise this in the recruitment process when your needs, balanced with the requirements of the role, will be fully considered.

We are committed to promoting equality and diversity across our organisation as well as across all areas of our science community. As such, we aim to have a workforce with employees from all backgrounds with people who are passionate about earth science and who share our commitment to work for the good of the environment and the benefit of society.

We will actively seek to avoid discrimination on the grounds of age, being or becoming a transsexual person, being married or in a civil partnership, being pregnant or on maternity leave, disability, race (including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin), sex or sexual orientation.

The British Geological Survey is an Investors in People organisation and has achieved Bronze status for Athena SWAN – a scheme that recognises an organisation's commitment and progress in developing a diverse and inclusive workforce.



Specific Skills Criteria		
	<i>Essential</i>	<i>Desirable</i>
QUALIFICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postgraduate qualification in Environmental Science/Chemistry and/or at least 3 years' relevant work experience • Full driving licence 	
EXPERIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of supervising and training students and/or overseas visitors • Experience in applying environmental geochemistry data to biogeochemistry studies • Experience of fieldwork in the UK and/or overseas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working in a UKAS accredited laboratory environment • Leadership of a field team for overseas environmental geochemistry projects



<p>KNOWLEDGE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of statistical software packages (e.g. R, Minitab) • Proficiency in the use of Microsoft Office and GIS • Knowledge of ICP-MS applied to biogeochemistry studies, in particular the use of HPLC ICP-MS • Knowledge of experimental design for understanding geochemical pathways (e.g. isotope dilution-tracers) 	
<p>SKILLS AND ABILITIES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective written and oral communication skills with evidence of peer-review papers • Evidence of the ability to communicate clearly and appropriately with clients • Ability to prioritise work and meet tight deadlines • Able to work within a variety of teams, demonstrating the ability to lead a team as well as participate effectively as a team member 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to emphasise with the needs of the business and your colleagues and relate this to your science role in the organisation • Ability to contribute to competitive grant funding proposals
<p>PERSONAL QUALITIES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capable and willing to work for extended periods overseas with research partners, e.g. in East Africa or South East Asia • Can adapt to changing demands on workflows with the ability and desire for cross-disciplinary work and the ability to develop partnerships 	
<p>MOTIVATION</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Displays an enthusiasm for their science and a desire to develop this further • Demonstrates an interest in their own Continuing Professional Development • Demonstrates curiosity and a drive to resolve scientific problems 	

