

International Graduate Program in Immunology

The RCI – Regensburg Center for Interventional Immunology (foundation under public law) - is a novel biomedical research center focusing on translational immunology in the fields of cancer immunotherapy, transplant rejection, and autoimmunity. The objective of the RCI is to develop effective cellular immunotherapies in these areas. From January 2022 on, the RCI will become an institute of the Leibniz-Association and will therefore be renamed “Leibniz-Institute for Immunotherapy” (LIT).

Within the framework of our International Graduate Program, we offer **6 PhD student positions** in the cutting-edge research fields of **cancer immunology / cellular therapy** and **T cell engineering**.

Participating divisions and groups include:

- Division of Interventional Immunology (Prof. Philipp Beckhove)
- Division of Immunology (Prof. Markus Feuerer)
- Division of Functional Immune Cell Modulation (Prof. Luca Gattinoni)
- Division of Gene-Immunotherapy (Prof. Hinrich Abken) / Research Group “T cell therapy” (Prof. Simone Thomas)
- Clinical Cooperation Group “Immunometabolomics” (Prof. Marina Kreutz)
- Clinical Cooperation Group “Innate immune sensing in cancer and transplantation” (Prof. Hendrik Poeck)

Our groups are interested in investigating the mechanisms underlying the complex interplay between immune and malignant cells, resulting in the control and eradication of cancer. With the help of state-of-the-art methods such as long-term live-cell imaging, single-cell RNA-sequencing, and transcriptome analysis, chromatin immunoprecipitation, chromatin accessibility mapping, and CRISPR genome editing, CAR and other recombinant immune cell receptors, etc., we are aiming to reveal the molecular basis of effective immune responses to malignancies. In addition, we are working on projects that utilize the obtained knowledge. Using T cell engineering we aim to generate T cells that have superior anti-tumor activity.

Your Profile:

We are looking for highly motivated and enthusiastic individuals, able to work independently as well as a part of an interdisciplinary team with:

- an excellent Master-/Diplom- or equivalent degree in biology, biochemistry, biomedicine or closely related subjects
- strong background in cell and molecular biology and immunology including experience in basic immunological techniques such as multiparameter flow cytometry, cell culture, and basic molecular biology techniques
- keen interest in the immune system and molecular mechanisms
- the aspiration to learn and work with state-of-the-art techniques
- excellent oral and written communication skills in English

What we offer:

- the opportunity to work at the interface of immunology, cancer, and autoimmune diseases, which is one of the most exciting fields of recent biomedical research
- the opportunity to learn a wide spectrum of genetic, molecular and cell biology, biochemical as well as immunological techniques
- access to cutting edge methods to study translational aspects of cancer (organoid co-cultures, cellular engineering via CRISPR/Cas9 technology, in vivo imaging, advanced animal models of allo-HSCT and cancer, microbiome-based immune modulation approaches)
- insights into clinically relevant aspects of cancer immunotherapy through the proximity to the university hospital and the interdisciplinary composition of our teams and closely collaborating groups
- a dynamic and motivating working environment where you can foster your skills
- excellent mentoring and participation in structured programs, that offer multidisciplinary scientific and soft-skills training

The positions are available for 3 years, with the possibility of prolongation. The post is remunerated on the TV-L salary scale (TV-L E13, 65%).

The Regensburg Centre for Interventional Immunology targets to increase the share of women in the workforce. Therefore, qualified female candidates are explicitly encouraged to submit their applications. Moreover, the RCI advocates for the compatibility of family and career.

Disabled applicants (m/f/d) with equal qualifications will receive preferential treatment within the recruitment procedure. Please refer to your disability status already in your application.

Please note that expenses that may arise in the context of an eventual job interview cannot be reimbursed.

For more information please contact Prof. Philipp Beckhove, phone: +49 941 944 38102. We would be delighted to receive your application including a letter of motivation, curriculum vitae, (degree) certificates, a summary of the master thesis, expected availability date, list of publications, and 2-3 references.

Please apply via our homepage <https://www.rcii.de/en/jobs/> quoting the **reference IGP-2021-1**.

The application deadline is **December 12th, 2021**.