



Alta Resource Technologies, Inc.

Scientist I/II, Protein Engineering

Location: Boulder, CO

Reports To: Sr. Director of Applied Biology

About Us

Alta is reinventing how the world sources critical minerals — using protein-based chemistry to extract rare earth elements and other essential materials from challenging feedstocks with unmatched selectivity. By dramatically reducing the cost and environmental impact of mineral separation, Alta is making it possible to unlock new sources of supply for 21st-century technologies. As global demand accelerates, securing these materials has become one of the most urgent challenges facing U.S. competitiveness and national security. Backed by top investors and government partners, Alta is growing fast and hiring mission-driven scientists and engineers to help us scale our platform and transform the future of mining.

Role Summary

Alta is seeking a **Scientist I/II in Protein Engineering** to join our Applied Biology team. This role will be responsible for developing and implementing assays for data-driven protein design campaigns towards discovering and validating enhanced binding specificity. This role will be a key contributor to building high-throughput screening capabilities and developing assays for ion binding and bioconjugation.

A successful candidate will have expertise in assay development that supports protein discovery workflows in small molecule, ion, or metal binding proteins. The candidate will collaborate with data scientists, strain engineers, analytics, and chemistry groups to generate robust and reliable assays that scale. The individual will join a group of collaborative scientists with diverse skill sets and must have strong communication and critical thinking skills with a rigorous approach to science.

Key Responsibilities

- Work within a team to develop and execute high-throughput assays for protein characterization including for protein quantification, bioconjugations, and binding capacities.
- Design and implement microtiter plate workflows for directed evolution campaigns.
- Work with scientists for rapid turnaround of testing data to aid in novel protein discovery and leverage the outcomes for additional protein design campaigns.
- Interpret test data and protein analysis data for guiding round-over-round improvements.
- Develop and onboard novel assays for protein characterization.
- Collaborate with strain engineers to achieve reliable microtiter production.
- Ensure excellent practices in documentation of all protocols and experiments.

Required Qualifications

- Ph.D. in biochemistry, molecular biology, or related field with 1-3+ years of research experience.
- Expertise in high-throughput protein assays and library-scale workflows.
- Experience with metalloproteins, protein-ion or small molecule interactions, or bioconjugate biochemistry
- Experience with assay analysis for modeling novel candidate leads.
- Experience in protein discovery and directed evolution campaigns to improve protein characteristics.
- Experience in design and implementation of automated workflows.
- Deep knowledge of classic and state-of-the-art molecular biology and multiplex library-scale approaches to directed evolution campaigns.
- Demonstrated knowledge of experimental design, the scientific method, and statistical analysis.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills and ability to work within different teams.
- Strong organizational and documentation skills.

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience in bioinformatics pipelines and scripting to aid in data analysis and protein design.
- Experience with generative protein design and structural modeling.

Compensation & Benefits

The starting pay range for this position is \$82,000 - \$120,000 commensurate with educational background and work experience.

Benefits include:

- 401(K)
- Medical, Dental, Vision plans (or equivalent)
- Flexible Time Off
- Paid Parental Leave
- Paid Sick Leave
- Company Holidays

EOE

At Alta, we are committed to diversity and inclusion. As an equal opportunity employer, all qualified candidates will be considered for employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, age, sex or gender (including pregnancy, childbirth, lactation and related medical conditions), gender identity or gender expression, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, ancestry, citizenship status, military service or veteran status, physical or mental disability, or any other legally protected characteristic. Alta participates in e-Verify for all positions.

If you have a disability or special need that requires accommodation at any point in the hiring process, please let your recruiter know.

How to Apply

To apply, please email your resume and a cover letter (see below) to talent@altatech.io. Include your name and the job title in the subject line (i.e., [Your Name] – [Job Title]).

All applications **must include** a one-page cover letter. The cover letter should clearly state your interest in the position and our company, outline 2–3 specific technical skills or accomplishments relevant to the role, and demonstrate how your experience aligns with our mission and technology platform. We expect concrete examples that illustrate measurable impact and collaborative problem-solving in technology development. Applications submitted without a cover letter will not be considered.