About the Opportunity

The Research Associate I, Chemistry will facilitate analytical chemistry work within Driscoll's Consumer lab to address fruit quality for plant breeding, molecular genetics, and postharvest groups. This role will work with a small creative team to develop and perform metabolite phenotyping procedures for Driscoll's berry crops. The RA will be responsible for tissue sampling, sample preparation/extraction, operation and maintenance of laboratory equipment and analytical instrumentation. This is an exciting research opportunity to explore the genetic potential and diversity of flavor in the development of superior Driscoll's berry varieties.

About the Company

**Driscoll's** is the leading supplier and marketer of organic and conventional strawberries, raspberries, blueberries and blackberries in the world. A fourth-generation, family-owned and operated company, **Driscoll's** has built upon the genetic work and innovation of our founders to fulfill our mission to ‘Continually Delight Berry Consumers.’

We utilize traditional plant breeding methods to create plant varieties (genetic breeds) that produce ONLY THE FINEST BERRIES™. This plant material is then patented, cultivated in Driscoll's nurseries and supplied to our independent farmer partners around the world to grow Driscoll's brand berries.

Driscoll’s company culture is rooted in our mission, values, and commitment to creating a supportive work environment that fosters open and friendly communication, encourages collaboration and team interaction, and provides clear focus and direction.

At **Driscoll’s**, we’re committed to Growing Great People. This means that we help our employees learn about and support our overall business strategies. We also provide opportunities for individuals to grow along with the company. Most importantly, **Driscoll’s** encourages our employees to achieve their career growth and cultivate their personal well-being. For more information about our company, including our Mission and Values, please go to [www.driscolls.com](http://www.driscolls.com).

Responsibilities

**Research:**

- Perform various sample preparation and metabolite extraction of fruit tissue for analysis on analytical instrumentation.
- Aid in development of appropriate extraction techniques and high throughput methodology for fruit metabolite phenotyping across Driscoll's four crops.
- Operate and maintain analytical instrumentation such as GC-MS and LC-MS.
- Maintain, organize, and manage high volume of samples and sample data.
- Aid in preliminary data analysis.
- Keep the laboratory clean and orderly to promote safety.
Supervision:
- Supervise temporary technical staff to assist in the research efforts as needed.
- Support and promote safety.

Collaboration/Communication:
- Establish working relationships with sensory analysts, molecular geneticists, plant breeders, and postharvest biologists within Driscoll's to deliver the analytical capabilities they require.
- Establish collaborative relationships with other researchers in the field through attendance of conferences and symposia.

General:
- Follow Company policies and practices while representing Driscoll’s in an ethical and business-like manner in all interactions with employees, governmental agencies, growers, customers, etc.
- Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications
- Master's degree in analytical chemistry, biochemistry, or related field is highly desired. Bachelor's degree required.
- 1-3 years’ experience in analytical chemistry or metabolomics.
- Hands on experience with various biological sample preparations and metabolite extractions is required.
- Experience operating analytical instrumentation such as NIR, GC-MS, and LC-MS is required.
- Experience with plant metabolomics is highly desired.
- Experience with high throughput analytical chemistry is highly desired.
- Individual must be highly organized.
- Individual must possess the ability to develop strong trust in all working relationships.
- Demonstrated ability to successfully work in a cross-functional team environment.
- Excellent communication skills, including written, verbal, and presentation.

To Apply: Please visit the Career section our website at www.driscolls.com and apply to Job #769428, and submit a cover letter stating why you are interested in working for Driscoll’s and a brief overview of your relevant experience to this role, along with your resume in Word or PDF format.

Thank you for your interest in Driscoll’s.