

**Opportunity Title:** ARS Microbiology/Molecular Biology Postdoctoral Appointment

**Opportunity Reference Code:** ARS-VPRU-2016-0012-02

**Organization** U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

**Reference Code** ARS-VPRU-2016-0012-02

**How to Apply** A complete application package consists of:

- An application
- Transcript(s) – For this opportunity, an unofficial transcript or copy of the student academic records printed by the applicant or by academic advisors from internal institution systems may be submitted. Selected candidate must provide proof of completion of the degree before the appointment can start. Proof must be sent to ORISE directly from the academic institution including graduation date and degree awarded. All transcripts must be in English or include an official English translation.
- A current resume/CV

If you have questions, send an email to [USDA-ARS@orau.org](mailto:USDA-ARS@orau.org). Please include the reference code for this opportunity in your email.

**Description** A postdoctoral research opportunity is available with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Research Service (ARS), Virus and Prion Research Unit (VPRU) located at the National Animal Disease Center in Ames, Iowa. The selected applicant will conduct research on pathogens and conditions that contribute to the Porcine Respiratory Disease Complex (PRDC). Projects may include identifying determinants of bacterial virulence of important swine bacterial pathogens, such as *Haemophilus parasuis* and *Streptococcus suis*, through the use of functional genomics and proteomics and determining the role of the respiratory microbiome in carriage and development of disease.

The appointment is full-time for one year and may be renewed based upon recommendation of the ARS and availability of funding. The selected applicant will receive a stipend as support for their living and other expenses during this appointment. Stipend rates are determined by ARS officials, and are based on the applicant's academic and professional background. The participant must show proof of health and medical insurance. Health insurance can be obtained through ORISE. The participant will not enter into an employee/employer relationship with ORISE, ORAU, USDA, ARS, or any other office or agency. Instead, the participant will be affiliated with ORISE for the administration of the appointment through the ORISE appointment letter and Terms of Appointment.

While participants will not enter into an employment relationship with ARS, this position requires a pre-appointment check and a full background investigation.

This opportunity is available to U.S. citizens, Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR), and foreign nationals. Non-U.S. citizen applicants should refer to the [Guidelines for Non-U.S. Citizens Details](#) page of the program website for information about the valid immigration statuses that are acceptable for program participation.



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For more information about the ARS Research Participation Program,  
please visit the [Program Website](#).

**Qualifications** To be eligible, applicants must have received a doctorate degree in an area related to microbiology within five years of the desired starting date. Relevant fields include microbiology, molecular biology, bioinformatics, and infectious diseases. The ideal candidate will have some or all of the following skills:

- Knowledge of standard microbiological techniques.
- Strong molecular biology skills, including sequencing and bioinformatics.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.

- Eligibility**
- **Degree:** Doctoral Degree.
- Requirements**
- **Discipline(s):**
    - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** ([4](#) )