

**Opportunity Title:** USDA-ARS Bachelor's Research Internship

**Opportunity Reference Code:** USDA-ARS-PW-2024-0248

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

**Reference Code** USDA-ARS-PW-2024-0248

**How to Apply** *To submit your application, scroll to the bottom of this opportunity and click **APPLY**.*

A complete application 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.  
Click [here](#) for detailed information about acceptable transcripts.
- A current resume/CV, including academic history, employment history, relevant experiences, and publication list
- Two educational or professional recommendations

All documents must be in English or include an official English translation.

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**Description** \*Applications may be reviewed on a rolling-basis.

**ARS Office/Lab and Location:** A research opportunity is available with the Commodity Protection and Quality Research Unit within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Research Service (ARS) located in Parlier, California.

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's chief scientific in-house research agency with a mission to find solutions to agricultural problems that affect Americans every day from field to table. ARS will deliver cutting-edge, scientific tools and innovative solutions for American farmers, producers, industry, and communities to support the nourishment and well-being of all people; sustain our nation's agroecosystems and natural resources; and ensure the economic competitiveness and excellence of our agriculture. The vision of the agency is to provide global leadership in agricultural discoveries through scientific excellence.

**Research Project:** The candidate will be an intern focused on learning controlling insect pests of concern to horticultural producers. Activities include conducting insecticidal evaluations to quantify mortalities that result from treatments, as well as evaluating insect behavioral responses to chemical and acoustical signals. As part of the research, the candidate will aid in insect rearing, fruit harvesting, and statistical analyses.

**Learning Objectives:** Upon completion of the project, the selected candidate will have gained a deeper understanding of insect control, a key concern of US horticultural producers.



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**Mentor:** The mentor for this opportunity is Spencer Walse ([spencer.walse@usda.gov](mailto:spencer.walse@usda.gov)). If you have questions about the nature of the research, please contact the mentor.

**Anticipated Appointment Start Date:** July 2024. Start date is flexible and will depend on a variety of factors.

**Appointment Length:** The appointment will initially be for one year, but may be renewed upon recommendation of ARS and is contingent on the availability of funds.

**Level of Participation:** The appointment is part-time.

**Participant Stipend:** The participant will receive a monthly stipend commensurate with educational level and experience.

**Citizenship Requirements:** This opportunity is available to U.S. citizens only.

**ORISE Information:** This program, administered by ORAU through its contract with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to manage the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE), was established through an interagency agreement between DOE and ARS. Participants do not become employees of USDA, ARS, DOE or the program administrator, and there are no employment-related benefits. Proof of health insurance is required for participation in this program. Health insurance can be obtained through ORISE.

**Questions:** Please visit our [Program Website](#). After reading, if you have additional questions about the application process, please email [ORISE.ARS.PacificWest@ornl.gov](mailto:ORISE.ARS.PacificWest@ornl.gov) and include the reference code for this opportunity.

**Qualifications** The qualified candidate should be currently pursuing an associate's or bachelor's degree in the one of the relevant fields.

**Preferred skills:**

- Coursework in biology, chemistry, mathematics, computer science, or engineering is highly recommended.
- Previous experience or coursework with applied science is preferred.
- Previous experience completing post high school scientific coursework or conducting scientific research is preferred.
- Basic understanding of Microsoft excel, for data entry.
- Independently review literature, as well as organize, document, and interpret data for the assigned project.

- Eligibility Requirements**
- **Citizenship:** U.S. Citizen Only
  - **Degree:** Associate's Degree or Bachelor's Degree.
  - **Discipline(s):**
    - **Chemistry and Materials Sciences** ([12](#)👁)
    - **Communications and Graphics Design** ([1](#)👁)
    - **Computer, Information, and Data Sciences** ([17](#)👁)

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- **Earth and Geosciences** ([21](#) 👁)
- **Engineering** ([27](#) 👁)
- **Environmental and Marine Sciences** ([1](#) 👁)
- **Life Health and Medical Sciences** ([51](#) 👁)
- **Mathematics and Statistics** ([11](#) 👁)
- **Physics** ([16](#) 👁)
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences** ([1](#) 👁)