Opportunity Title: USDA-ARS Foreign Arthropod-Borne Animal Diseases Research Unit Fellowship
Opportunity Reference Code: USDA-ARS-PA-2025-0139

Organization U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Reference Code USDA-ARS-PA-2025-0139

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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Application Deadline 12/30/2025 3:00:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

Description ***Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis**

ARS Office/Lab and Location: A research opportunity is currently available with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Research Service (ARS) within the Foreign Arthropod-Borne Animal Diseases Research Unit. This opportunity will be located at the Center for Vector-borne and Infectious Diseases Laboratory at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO.

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 Foreign Arthropod-Borne Animal Diseases Research Unit uses existing and new molecular biological technologies to understand the virus-host-vector interactions of insect-transmitted viruses affecting livestock. The specific mission is to Identify and understand exotic/ transboundary arthropod-borne disease challenges in U.S. livestock. This includes infecting, monitoring and determining infection and

transmission rates of vector insects and/or host under various experimental conditions. These analyses will include state-of-the art molecular analysis including next generation sequencing, transcriptomics, CUT&RUN and RNA-Seq. Under the guidance of a mentor, the participant will join the highly collaborative team to conduct research to meet the overall research goals related to Rift Valley fever virus.

Learning Objectives: These studies will expand the participant's knowledge of molecular tools used to investigate virus-host and/or virus vector interactions. The participant will also learn or gain additional experience in BSL-3 and ACL-3 containment safety protocols which are required for some of these studies. Opportunities will be available to learn how to perform virus-vector experiments and develop analytical methods for identification of cis-regulatory genomic domains associated with arbovirus infection in mosquitoes. There are international field projects ongoing which will allow the participant an opportunity to expand their scientific network. In addition, the participant will attend national and potentially international scientific meetings to gain experience presenting data.

Mentor(s): The mentors for this opportunity are Dr. Chad Mire (chad.mire@usda.gov) and Corey Rosenberg (corey.campbell@colostate.edu). If you have questions about the nature of the research, please contact the mentor.

Anticipated Appointment Start Date: 2025/2026. 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 full-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 and Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR) 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.Plains@orau.org and include the reference code for this

opportunity.

Qualifications

The qualified candidate should have received or be currently pursuing a doctoral degree in one of the relevant fields.

Preferred Skills:

- Previous experience in in computational biology and statistics
- Previous experience with infectious animal disease research and/or vector biology.
- Previous experience with research under high biosecurity (BSL-3 and higher).
- Previous experience in genomic analyses of non-model organisms
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Previous experience in team and collaborative scientific environments

Eligibility Requirements

- **Citizenship:** LPR or U.S. Citizen
- **Degree:** Doctoral Degree.
- **Discipline(s):**
  - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** (14 👁)