

**Opportunity Title:** USDA-ARS Fellowship in Nutrition Sciences and Molecular Biology

**Opportunity Reference Code:** USDA-ARS-SEA-2025-0223

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

**Reference Code** USDA-ARS-SEA-2025-0223

**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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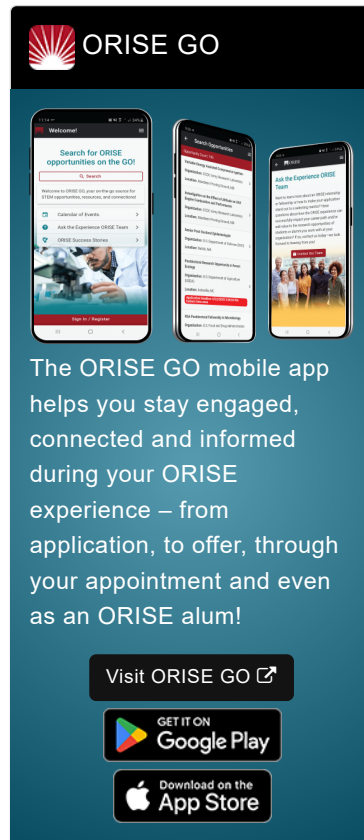
**Application Deadline** 3/13/2026 3:00:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

**Description** \*Applications are 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), located in Raleigh, NC.


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 USDA-ARS Food Science & Market Quality and Handling Research Unit is engaged in research to expand the domestic utilization of peanuts and peanut processing waste materials (peanut skins, hulls), and to characterize their functional attributes and the impact on animal and human health under the USDA-ARS National Program 306, Product Quality and New Uses. This research project evaluates the hepatoprotective effects of peanut skin extracts and phenolic compounds to induced hepatic injury and to identify the cell signaling mechanisms responsible for these effects using *in vivo* (murine model of nonalcoholic fatty liver disease) and *in vitro* methods.


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**Learning Objectives:** The selected candidate will be trained alongside team members in using *in vitro* and *in vivo* research models to understand the role of bioactive components of peanut skins and/or peanuts in disease prevention and to determine the mechanisms responsible for these health benefits.

**Mentor(s):** The mentor for this opportunity is Ondulla Toomer ([ondulla.toomer@usda.gov](mailto:ondulla.toomer@usda.gov)). If you have questions about the nature of the research, please contact the mentor(s).

**Anticipated Appointment Start Date: February 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. **The anticipated stipend range is \$30,000 - \$50,000 annually.**

**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.Southeast@orau.org](mailto:ORISE.ARS.Southeast@orau.org) and include the reference code for this opportunity.

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

**Preferred skills:**

- Specific skills in cell culture methods, use of animal research models, cellular or molecular biology, and ELISA methods are highly desirable.

**Stipend** \$30,000.00 – \$50,000.00 Yearly

**Point of Contact** [Janeen](#)




**Eligibility Requirements**

- **Citizenship:** U.S. Citizen Only
- **Degree:** Master's Degree or Doctoral Degree.

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- **Discipline(s):**

- **Chemistry and Materials Sciences** ([6](#) )
- **Engineering** ([2](#) )
- **Life Health and Medical Sciences** ([26](#) )