

Opportunity Title: Laboratory Operations Support at EPA

Opportunity Reference Code: EPA-SSP-0022-8

Organization U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

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- How to Apply**
- Submit application and supporting documents by clicking on Apply Now button.
 - For more information, contact EPAjobs@orau.org. Do not contact EPA directly.*

Description The EPA Environmental Research and Business Support Program has an immediate opening for a Laboratory Operations Support position with the Office of Research and Development at the EPA facility in Ada, OK.

The Office of Research and Development at the EPA supports high-quality research to improve the scientific basis for decisions on national environmental issues and help EPA achieve its environmental goals.

Research is conducted in a broad range of environmental areas by scientists in EPA laboratories and at universities across the country.

The Groundwater, Watershed and Ecosystem Restoration Division (GWERD) of the National Risk Management Research Laboratory (NRMRL) in the Office of Research and Development (ORD) at the U.S.

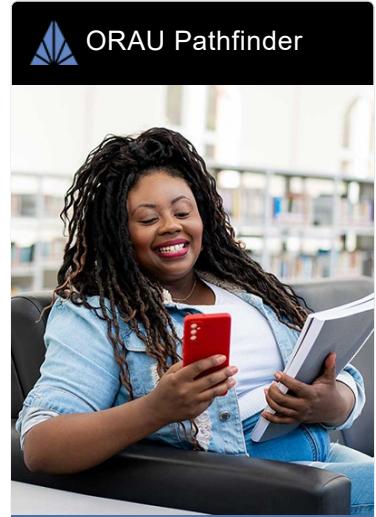
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for conducting research on subsurface remediation and ecosystem restoration to support EPA efforts in the areas of Drinking Water, Waste Management, and Clean Water. Research conducted by NRMRL supports the protection and remediation of ground water, surface water, and drinking water resources.

The Robert S. Kerr Environmental Research Center (RSKERC) houses the EPA's Groundwater, Watershed and Ecosystem Restoration Division as well as support contractors. GWERD is responsible for conducting and supporting high quality research targeted to understanding and managing the nation's most serious environmental threats. GWERD develops methods and techniques to manage risks to pollution, prevent its dispersal in the environment, and restore ecosystems to a self-sustaining condition.

This work is supported by the Safety Health and Environmental Management Program (SHEMP), as well as the Facilities Operations Program. The Safety Health and Environmental Management Program is comprised of a SHEMP Manager, a Senior Environmental Employment Program (SEEP) Training Coordinator and an Environmental Research Apprenticeship Program (ERAP) student. The SHEMP Program is responsible for laboratory and chemical waste management, laboratory and field health and safety plans, safety training, environmental compliance and other areas relating to occupational and environmental health. The Facilities Operations Program consists of the GWERD Facility Manager and an on-site facility operation and maintenance contract. The Facilities Operations Program is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the RSKERC, as well as developing and/or maintaining policies, procedure and facilities for compliance of laboratory operations with local, state and Federal environmental code requirements.



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The selected candidate will support the SHEMP Manager and the Facilities Manager with occupational health and safety issues and operation and maintenance issues relating to research currently being conducted at the Groundwater, Watershed and Ecosystem Restoration Division (GWERD).

Safety Health and Environmental Management duties shall include assisting with:

- Inspecting, testing, and evaluating workplace environments, equipment, and practices to ensure they follow safety standards and government regulations;
- Collecting samples of potentially toxic materials, checking that hazardous materials are stored correctly and managing small quantities of laboratory and chemical waste as well as universal waste;
- Conducting weekly inspections of the hazardous waste building and maintaining careful and accurate records in a written Log Book and an online spreadsheet. The Log Book and all other data produced under this order will be the property of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency;
- Maintaining the online chemical inventory database by inputting and barcoding chemicals received;
- Collecting empty, unwanted, and/or waste chemicals from laboratories and managing for recycling, neutralization or disposal;
- Performing pH analysis of laboratory waste; and
- Researching and determining waste codes for hazardous waste generated at RSKERC.

Facility Management duties shall include assisting with:

- Overseeing space use and utilization, energy conservation, inventory management, and maintaining compliance with state, local, and federal building codes;
- Monitoring critical Laboratory support systems including fire & life safety systems;
- Monitoring ventilation and maintaining laboratory spaces in accordance with ASHRA E standards and EPA SHEM policies;
- Developing and maintaining policies and procedures for compliance of laboratory operations with local, state, and Federal environmental code requirements; and
- Updating E-Pass Security badge information for RSKERC employees.

Salary: Selected applicant will become a temporary employee of ORAU and will receive an hourly wage of \$20.34 for hours worked.

Hours: Full-Time

Travel: Limited travel may be required.

Expected Start Date: The position is full time and expected to begin December 2017. The selected applicant will be a temporary employee of ORAU working as a contractor to EPA. The initial contract period is through May 14, 2018, and EPA may elect to renew the contract for an additional

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two (2) 12-month optional periods.

Working Conditions:

The selected candidate will be supervised by a mentor who will provide day-to-day direction, as well as coach, advise, and counsel, and review his/her work. The mentor for this position will be a federal EPA employee.

Work will primarily be performed in an office or laboratory setting at the GWERD facilities. This position may involve exposure to hazardous elements. The work will require some physical effort. The effort required, e.g., walking, standing, carrying and/or lifting equipment (up to 50 lbs) such as hazardous waste containers and equipment, movement of office furniture (as needed to measure space, etc.) and may require driving or travelling by motor vehicle. The work may require walking outdoors to conduct inspections and move waste and equipment to outbuildings.

The selected candidate will receive on-site training on basic safety requirements and hazardous waste management at GWERD before he/she begins work in the laboratory. The selected candidate will follow written laboratory Health and Safety Plans (HASP).

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Qualifications **Eligible applicants must:**

- Be at least 18 years of age and
- Have earned at a minimum a Bachelor's degree in environmental science, chemistry, or another related scientific discipline from an accredited university or college within the last 24 months and
- Be a citizen of the United States of America or a Legal Permanent Resident.

EPA ORD employees, their spouses, and children are not eligible to participate in this program.

Required Knowledge, Skills, Work Experience, and Education

The applicant shall have:

- Demonstrated ability to work independently without direct supervision, following written protocols;
- Demonstrated understanding of routine laboratory procedures, including preparation of solutions, safe handling and disposal of chemicals, routine maintenance and calibration of monitoring equipment and pH meters and documentation of activities in lab notebooks;
- Documented course work with laboratory credit in chemistry;
- The physical ability to lift up to 50 pounds;
- Experience with Microsoft Products Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook; and
- Demonstrated proficiency in oral, written and electronic communication in English.

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- Eligibility** • **Citizenship:** LPR or U.S. Citizen
- Requirements**
- **Degree:** Bachelor's Degree, Master's Degree, or Doctoral Degree received within the last 24 month(s).
 - **Discipline(s):**
 - **Chemistry and Materials Sciences** ([12](#) )
 - **Earth and Geosciences** ([21](#) )
 - **Engineering** ([27](#) )
 - **Environmental and Marine Sciences** ([14](#) )
 - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** ([45](#) )
 - **Physics** ([16](#) )

Affirmation I certify that I am at least 18 years of age; a recent graduate with at a minimum a Bachelor's degree in environmental science, chemistry, or another related scientific discipline from an accredited university or college within the last 24 months; a citizen or a Legal Permanent Resident of the United States of America; and not a current employee of EPA ORD or the spouse or child of an EPA ORD employee.

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