

Opportunity Title: Research Opportunity in Influenza A Virus (IAV) Infection in Swine

Opportunity Reference Code: ARS-VPRU-2017-980-0022



Organization U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

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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. Click [Here](#) for detailed information about acceptable transcripts.
- A current resume/CV
- Two references – While two references are requested, applications will be considered without reference information. It is preferred that a complete application package contains a minimum of one reference.

If you have questions, send an email to USDA-ARS@oraui.org. Please include the reference code for this opportunity in your email.

Description A post bachelor's research opportunity in virology is available with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Research Service (ARS) National Animal Disease Center (NADC) Virus and Prion Research Unit (VPRU) in Ames, IA. Scientists in this unit maintain a comprehensive influenza A virus (IAV) research program including investigation of virulence mechanisms, vaccinology, immunology, and virus evolution.

The participant's overall research activities are to execute technical methods, experimentation and procedures; to conduct laboratory maintenance and safety practices; and to collect, analyze, and maintain physical and electronic data in support of the Intervention Strategies to Control IAV Infection in Swine project plan. The candidate will participate as a team member with the scientist and other laboratory staff in all phases of the research process. Specific goals of this project are to assess contemporary circulating IAV strains at genetic and antigenic levels, characterize the phenotypic properties of IAV resulting from genetic evolution and new strain introductions through pathogenesis and transmission studies, and investigate vaccine strategies that will aid in the control of this swine disease.

The appointment is full-time for 12 months 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.



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

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Qualifications The research assignment requires a bachelor's of science degree with emphasis on the disciplines of virology, immunology, and molecular biology and additional knowledge of research and laboratory techniques. Experience and understanding in virology and molecular biology techniques and the use of animal models for disease are preferred.

The participant should be skilled in the performance of biologic laboratory assays, especially virologic and molecular techniques, the use of animal models in influenza research, cloning, sequencing, sequence analysis, cell culture, serologic assays, immunologic assays, technical writing and peer-reviewed publications, public speaking, and possess good interpersonal skills to work in a team environment.

- Eligibility Requirements**
- **Degree:** Bachelor's Degree.
 - **Discipline(s):**
 - **Communications and Graphics Design** (1 )
 - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** (6 )