

Opportunity Title: Aquatic Toxicology Research Support

Opportunity Reference Code: EPA-SSP-0009-16

Organization U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Reference Code EPA-SSP-0009-16

How to Apply Submit application and supporting documents by clicking on Apply Now button.

For more information, contact EPAjobs@orau.org.

Check out our website at: orau.org/epa/

Description The EPA Environmental Research and Business Support Program has an immediate opening for a full-time Aquatic Toxicology Research Support position with the EPA facility in Duluth, MN.

What the EPA project is about


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 Mid-Continent Ecology Division (MED) is one of four ecology divisions of the National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory (NHEERL). The Mid-Continent Ecology Division is located in Duluth, MN. The MED is the focal point ORD research related to freshwater ecotoxicology and freshwater ecology. A primary objective of the ecotoxicological research at MED is to provide the scientific basis and technological means to enable the prediction of whether an environmental agent will produce adverse effects in aquatic organisms and to minimize the uncertainty of such predictions.

What you will be doing

As a team member, you will assist in one of several aquatic toxicology projects evaluating aspects of chemical toxicity in aquatic organisms. The principal focus of these studies is the need to assess the effect of chemicals on thyroid hormone disruption in aquatic organisms as predicted by in vitro chemical screening results. You will assist in laboratory activities which may include one or more of the following: analysis of test chemical concentrations in water, chemical analysis of hormones in blood and tissue of exposed amphibians, and in vitro chemical activity screening assays. In addition, you may be involved in development of new techniques/procedures, writing operating procedures, and performing experiments with established scientists.


As a team member, you will be part of a research team and will


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be trained to perform specific laboratory tasks needed to support the work.

Required skills

- Experience extracting target chemicals for analysis;
- Experience in performing analytical chemistry measurements in the laboratory;
- Experience with data collection, spreadsheet preparation, and data analysis; and
- Experience with Microsoft Office products including Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

How you will apply your skills

- Providing general support for studies designed to determine chemical effects on thyroid hormones in the model aquatic organism, *Xenopus laevis*;
- Measuring test chemical concentrations in water;
- Measuring hormone concentrations in blood and tissue using established methods;
- Using analytical chemistry instrumentation including LC-MS/MS systems;
- Maintaining logbooks and chemical records;
- Keeping track of inventories of chemicals and supplies;
- Cleaning of laboratory glassware; and
- Maintaining general cleanliness and function of the lab.

Location: This job will be located EPA's facility in Duluth, MN.

Salary: Selected applicant will become a temporary employee of ORAU and will receive an hourly wage of \$20.95 for hours worked.

Hours: Full time. Most of the work will be performed Monday through Friday during regular business hours; however, monitoring, maintaining or completing experiments may require work on some weekends or after hours with approval from the mentor.

Travel: Occasional overnight travel may be required.

Expected start date: The position is full time and expected to begin October 2019. The initial project is through May 14, 2020, with potential optional periods.

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Working conditions: You will be supervised by a mentor who will provide day-to-day direction, as well as coach, advise, counsel and review your work. The position will involve work in an administrative setting and is not expected to involve exposure to hazardous elements

Qualifications

- Be at least 18 years of age and
- Have at least a Bachelor's degree in chemistry, toxicology, or closely related field of study 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.

**Eligibility
Requirements**

- **Citizenship:** LPR or U.S. Citizen
- **Degree:** Bachelor's Degree or Master's Degree received within the last 24 month(s).
- **Overall GPA:** 2.00
- **Discipline(s):**
 - **Chemistry and Materials Sciences** (12 👁)
 - **Environmental and Marine Sciences** (13 👁)
 - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** (45 👁)

Affirmation

I certify that I am at least 18 years of age; earned a minimum of a Bachelor's degree in chemistry, toxicology, or closely related field 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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