

Opportunity Title: Student Research Opportunity in Biological Sciences

Opportunity Reference Code: USDA-ARS-2020-0095

Organization U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Reference Code USDA-ARS-2020-0095

How to 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. All transcripts must be in English or include an official English translation. 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.

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

Application Deadline 5/26/2020 3:00:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

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

A research opportunity is available with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Research Service (ARS), Center for Medical, Agricultural, and Veterinary Entomology (CMAVE), in the Imported Fire Ant and Household Insects Unit (IFAHU) located in Gainesville, Florida.

The IFAHU unit focuses on the biology and control of invasive ants, with an emphasis on developing biologically-based control technologies. These technologies include self-sustaining biological control with pathogens and the development of environmentally compatible integrated pest management tactics and strategies.

Under the guidance of a mentor and collaborating with technical staff, the participant will learn to design and conduct laboratory and field studies on invasive ants. There will be specific opportunities to learn experimental design, experience the logistical considerations needed to efficiently conduct a variety of experiments, collect and statistically analyze data, and summarize results for technical reports. The participant will conduct both basic and applied research that will develop expertise in insect/ant identification, rearing, behavior, and control technologies. While hands-on experience in techniques and approaches used in entomological research will be gained, the general scientific methodologies learned will provide a foundation of research skills and aptitude applicable to a career in science.

Anticipated Appointment Start Date: as early as April 13, 2020

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. The initial appointment is for one year, but may be renewed upon recommendation of ARS and is contingent on the availability of funds. The participant will receive a monthly stipend commensurate with educational level and experience. Proof of health insurance is required for participation in this program. The appointment is part-time (30 hours per week) at ARS in the Gainesville, Florida, area. Participants do not become employees of USDA, ARS, DOE or the program administrator, and there are no



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employment-related benefits.


This opportunity is available to U.S. citizens only.

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

Qualifications The qualified candidate should be currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in one of the relevant fields.

Preferred Skills:

- Skills or experience with manipulating or handling live insects, especially stinging or biting insects
- Experience or interest in working outdoors and documenting observations of insect or animal behavior
- Knowledge of and experience with basic laboratory techniques and equipment used in biological or physical sciences

- Eligibility Requirements**
- **Citizenship:** U.S. Citizen Only
 - **Degree:** Currently pursuing a Bachelor's Degree.
 - **Discipline(s):**
 - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** ([6](#) )