

**Opportunity Title:** USDA-ARS Biological Laboratory and Animal Health Internship

**Opportunity Reference Code:** USDA-ARS-2021-0043

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

**Reference Code** USDA-ARS-2021-0043

**How to Apply** *Connect with ORISE...on the GO!* Download the new ORISE GO mobile app in the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#) to help you stay engaged, connected, and informed during your ORISE experience and beyond!

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.

**Application Deadline** 3/8/2021 3:00:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

**Description** \*Applications may be reviewed on a rolling-basis.

**ARS Office/Lab and Location:** Two research opportunities are currently available with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Research Service (ARS) located in East Lansing, Michigan.

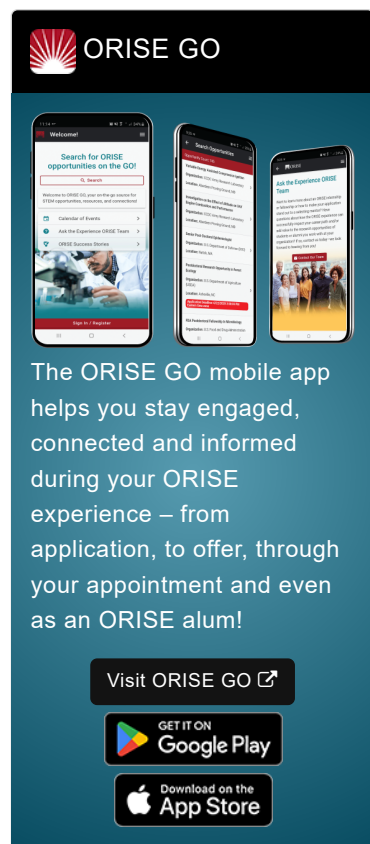
The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's chief scientific in-house research agency with a mission to find solutions to agricultural problems that affect Americans every day from field to table. ARS will deliver cutting-edge, scientific tools and innovative solutions 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 the agency is to provide global leadership in agricultural discoveries through scientific excellence.

**Research Project:** The selected participant(s) will conduct research on the role of host genetic resistance and vaccination on transmission of Marek's disease virus in poultry. The participant(s) will have the opportunity to participate in studies that are designed to develop a long-term strategy for reducing environmental virus load by selecting for birds that shed less virus. Participation may include examinations and collecting samples from live poultry, assisting with necropsy, laboratory assays for the detection of virus, and data analysis.

**Learning Objectives:** This environment offers opportunities to learn laboratory procedures such as DNA isolation, conventional and real-time PCR, and cell culture for virus propagation; to interact with scientists and technicians within the group to develop new projects; to develop clinical skills with poultry; and to enhance proficiency in veterinary pathology.


**Mentor(s):** The mentor for these opportunities is Hans Cheng ([hans.cheng@usda.gov](mailto:hans.cheng@usda.gov)). If you have questions about the nature of the research please contact the mentor(s).


**Anticipated Appointment Start Date:** February 2021. Start date is flexible and will depend on a variety of factors.




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**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. **A health insurance allowance will also be provided.**

**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 [USDA-ARS@ornl.gov](mailto:USDA-ARS@ornl.gov) and include the reference code for this opportunity.

**Qualifications** The qualified candidate should have received a bachelor's degree in one of the relevant fields. Degree must have been received within five years of the appointment start date.

Preferred skills:

- Able to assist with the research of microbiology and molecular biology procedures relating to viral infections and diseases
- Assist in the analyses for molecular biology (i.e. DNA isolation, convention and real-time PCR, DNA sequence analysis)
- Adapt, modify or develop new techniques or procedures to satisfy the handling of animals in research or veterinary setting
- Tabulate and statistically analyze and summarize data using personal computer and software packages

- Eligibility Requirements**
- **Citizenship:** U.S. Citizen Only
  - **Degree:** Bachelor's Degree received within the last 60 month(s).
  - **Discipline(s):**
    - **Life Health and Medical Sciences** ([10](#) )
  - **Veteran Status:** Veterans Preference, degree received within the last 120 month(s).