



RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND ECONOMICS
Agricultural Research Service
VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Research Position

United States Department of Agriculture

Announcement Type: ALL SOURCES/ALTERNATIVE MERIT PROMOTION
Position Title: Interdisciplinary: Research Food Technologist/Research Chemist
Series/Grade: GS-1382/1320-12/13
Salary: GS-12: \$58,665 - \$76,261 per annum
GS-13: \$69,762 - \$90,692 per annum
Type of Appointment: Permanent
Location of Position: Agricultural Research Service, South Atlantic Area
Market Quality and Handling Research Unit
Raleigh, North Carolina
Announcement Number: ARS-X4S-0296
Opening Date: October 4, 2004
Closing Date: December 8, 2004
Area of Consideration: All U.S. citizens

APPLICATIONS WILL ALSO BE ACCEPTED FROM USDA SURPLUS AND FEDERAL DISPLACED EMPLOYEES IN THE COMMUTING AREA.

DUTIES:

The incumbent is responsible for research to examine and determine nutritional components and characteristics; develop strategies and understanding of factors affecting nutritional components; and evaluate the contribution of components and other factors to the development of peanut flavor and improved shelf life of peanuts, peanut products and related commodities. The incumbent's initial and specific objective will be to investigate the potential for and concentration of significant nutritional and/or flavor development compounds in peanuts. Objectives of the research are to:

1. identify the chemical constituents of peanuts related to nutritional qualities, sensory and shelf life of raw and processed materials;
2. develop or adapt qualitative/quantitative methods for determining the constituents identified as potentially important in flavor and nutrition; and
3. collaborate with other scientists to develop strategies for control of the identified constituents as influenced by production, processing and/or genetic technologies.

QUALIFICATIONS:

BASIC REQUIREMENTS

Research Food Technologist:

A degree in food technology, microbiology, biology, chemistry or related field which included at least 30 semester hours in the basic biological and physical sciences, with at least 20 semester hours in food technology and closely related subjects or subjects that can be directly applied to food technology; or coursework equivalent to a major with the aforementioned coursework and appropriate experience or additional education.

Research Chemist:

A. Degree in physical sciences, life sciences, or engineering that included at least 30 semester hours in chemistry, supplemented by course work in mathematics through differential and integral calculus, and at least 6 semester hours in physics; OR, B. Combination of education and experience that included course work equivalent to a major that included at least 30 semester hours in chemistry, supplemented by mathematics through differential and integral calculus, and at least 6 semester hours in physics, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

In addition to the Basic Requirements, applicants must meet the following:

For the GS-12: Applicants must possess one year of specialized experience equivalent to the GS-11 level, or a Ph.D. or equivalent doctoral degree with course work related to this position.

For the GS-13: One year of specialized experience equivalent to the GS-12 level.

Specialized experience is professional research experience that provided the applicant with:

1. Skill in the analytical approaches of chemistry, biochemistry and/or food chemistry.
2. Ability to plan, conduct, and publish results of research in Food Science, Chemistry, Biochemistry, or associated research areas.
3. Skill in natural product (plant or animal) or other compound isolation, characterization and/or identification.

Applicants must submit a copy of college transcripts, or a list of college courses with name of course, year taken, credit hours, and grade received, in order to verify possession of the basic education requirement (transcript is preferred). If this information is not provided your education may not be properly evaluated and you may lose consideration for the position.

YOUR EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE WILL BE EVALUATED AGAINST THE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES (KSAs) AS OUTLINED UNDER SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE. A SPECIFIC RESPONSE TO THE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED UNDER SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED TO ENSURE ADEQUATE CONSIDERATION IN THE EVALUATION PROCESS.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

HOW TO APPLY: Send a resume, Curriculum vitae, Optional Application for Federal Employment (OF-612), or SF-171, to the Contact address listed below. The following information is required to evaluate applicant qualifications and to determine if applicants meet legal requirements for Federal employment:

- Announcement number, title, and grade(s) for the position
- Full name, mailing address (including zip code) and day and evening phone numbers (with area code)
- Social security number
- Identify country of citizenship (**U.S. citizenship is required**)
- Veterans' Preference (If applicable--see "Veterans' Preference" below for required forms and documentation)
- Highest Federal civilian grade held (if applicable)
- Current Federal employees **must** submit their most recent performance appraisal.
- Current Federal employees and reinstatement eligibles should submit an SF-50, Notification of Personnel Action, to verify competitive eligibility.
- Highest education level achieved. Specify:
 - Name, city, state, zip code (if known)
 - Date or expected date (month/year) of completion of degree requirements
 - Type of degree received
 - Graduates of foreign universities must include proof of foreign education equivalency to an accredited U.S. college/university
- Copy of college transcripts or list of college courses (if required under **QUALIFICATIONS** or if applicable to the position).
- Paid and nonpaid work experience related to the position. For each work experience include:
 - Job title
 - Series/grade (if Federal employment)
 - Duties and accomplishments
 - Employer's name and address
 - Supervisor's name and address
 - Starting and ending dates
 - Hours per week
 - Salary
 - Indicate if we may contact current supervisor/employer
- Job-related:
 - Training courses (title and year)
 - Skills (e.g., other languages, typing speed, computer software/hardware, tools, etc.)
 - Certificates/licenses (current)
 - Honors, awards, and special accomplishments

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- All status candidates who wish to be considered under both alternative merit promotion and non-status competitive examining must submit two (2) complete applications. When only one (1) application is received, it will be considered under the alternative merit promotion procedures if the applicant is a current or former Federal employee with reinstatement eligibility.

- Applicants will be evaluated based on the quality and extent of their experience, education, and accomplishments. This may include factors such as number of credits in directly related subjects, grade point average, relatedness of work experience, and any other evidence of ability to do the work of the position. For current and former Federal employees, the performance evaluation may also be taken into consideration. Please be sure that your

application or resume contains all of the information we need to determine if you are well qualified.

- This position is being filled in accordance with the Alternative Merit Promotion system. All merit promotion principles remain in effect.

- **Relocation Expenses:** Payment of relocation expenses will be determined in accordance with P&P 412.5 Recruitment and Retention Incentives and Other Special Pay, Sections 6 and 7, which may be found at www.afm.ars.usda.gov/divisions/hrd/hrdhomepage/empopp.htm and click on Policy on Payment of Relocation Expenses under General Information.

- **USDA surplus/Federal displaced employees must** submit documentary evidence of eligibility. Well qualified surplus and displaced employees within the local commuting area will receive selection priority as provided by OPM regulations. Well-qualified means the applicant meets the basic qualification and eligibility requirements and all selective placement factors; is rated above minimally qualified against the knowledge, skills, and abilities or quality criteria; and is able to satisfactorily perform the duties of the position upon entry. Applicants **must** submit the following:

-- a copy of their RIF Separation Notice (for displaced employees) OR Certification of Expected Separation or other documentation identifying you as surplus;

-- evidence of full performance level of current position;

-- a copy of their most recent performance appraisal; and

-- a copy of their most recent SF-50, Notification of Personnel Action, to verify reassignment eligibility.

- Males over age 18 who were born after December 31, 1959, must have registered with the Selective Service System (or have an exemption) to be eligible for a Federal job.

- **Financial Disclosure.** Federal employees are subject to prohibitions against officially dealing with outside organizations in which they have a financial interest. The incumbent of this position:

will be required to submit a financial disclosure report within 30 days of their effective date of appointment and annually thereafter.

may be required to submit a financial disclosure report.

- **If applications do not contain all of the requested information, applicants may lose consideration for the job.**

- **If applicants make a false statement in any part of their application, they may not be hired; may be fired after they begin work; or may be fined or jailed.**

- Applicants will not be notified of the status of their application until a final selection has been made.

- Applications submitted via Government envelopes will not be accepted.

- **APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED, FAXED OR E-MAILED BY THE CLOSING DATE OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT**

SPECIAL HIRING AUTHORITIES: If you meet the basic eligibility requirements and you are eligible for a noncompetitive appointment (a list of who may be eligible for noncompetitive appointments can be found at www.usajobs.opm.gov/a1.htm, please indicate the type of special appointment you are seeking on your application and follow all other instructions in this announcement. If you do not indicate the type of special appointment you are seeking, you will be considered under competitive procedures. If you wish to be considered under both noncompetitive and competitive procedures, please submit two (2) complete applications.

VETERANS' PREFERENCE: If applicants served on active duty in the United States military and were separated under honorable conditions, they may be eligible for veterans' preference. To claim 5-point veterans' preference, you must attach a copy of your DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, or other proof of eligibility. To claim 10-point veterans' preference, attach an SF-15, Application for 10-Point Veterans Preference, plus the documentation required by that form. For further details, call the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) at 912-757-3000. Select "Federal Employment Topics" and then "Veterans." Or, dial OPM's electronic bulletin board at 912-757-3100 or visit their VetGuide web site: www.opm.gov/employ/html/vetguide.htm.

EEO STATEMENT: The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice or TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202)720-5964 (voice or TDD). **USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.**

ACCOMMODATION: This agency provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities where appropriate. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process or have questions/concerns regarding reasonable accommodation and/or accessibility for any part of the application and hiring process, please contact Sue Dixon, ARS, Civil Rights Staff, 202-690-0372 or DC Relay Service: 202-855-1234 (TDD). The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be on a case-by-case basis.

CONTACT: For a copy of this vacancy announcement and/or applications forms, call 301-504-1482.

For specific questions regarding this vacancy only, call: Susan Davis, phone 919-515-2731

Name and phone number of Servicing Specialist: Laverne Blackwell, phone 301-504-1518

Submit applications to:

USDA, Agricultural Research Service
Human Resources Division
ATTN: Laverne Blackwell
5601 Sunnyside Avenue
Beltsville, MD 20705-5105

FAX applications to: 301-504-1535

E-MAIL applications to: scirecruit@ars.usda.gov (**if submitting applications via E-mail, be sure to mail or fax other required documentation such as college transcripts, SF-50, most recent performance appraisal, and/or DD-214/SF-15 separately and include the vacancy announcement**)

number of the position.)

For employment information and current job opportunities:

INTERNET ADDRESS: www.ars.usda.gov

DIAL-A-VACANCY: 301-504-1482

DC RELAY SERVICE: 202-855-1234 (TDD)