POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Wheat Breeding and Genetics, Research Assistant

Job Title: Research Assistant II (APA, Level 12)

Major Administrative Unit/College: College of Agriculture

Primary Department: Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences

Appointment Basis:
Grant funded position – Fixed Term to 12/31/2016, with possibility of renewal subject to continuation of funding

Employment %: 100

Salary Range: Salary commensurate with experience

Starting Date: January 4, 2016

Position Summary:
The Wheat Breeding and Genetics program at Michigan State University is seeking a highly motivated individual to work as a member of the wheat variety development and research program. This position will support winter wheat variety development efforts through management of early generation breeding nurseries, field-based research and greenhouse management. Field activities will include preparation, planting, and harvest in early generation wheat breeding nurseries and research plots. Seasonal nursery maintenance and data collection will be required. Greenhouse activities will involve planting, maintaining and harvesting plants used in crossing, population development and research activities. Management of hourly employees and staff will be required.

Responsibilities
30% Plans and develops research activities
30% Oversees and performs field based activities
30% Assists with greenhouse management
10% Supervises hourly employees

Minimum Qualifications:
The job requires: knowledge equivalent to that which normally would be acquired by completing a four-year college degree program in Crop and Soil Sciences, Horticulture or a related field; minimum of three years of related
and progressively more responsible or expansive work experience in overseeing research projects and laboratory operations, operating and maintaining a variety of laboratory equipment, performing specialized and difficult analytical and research techniques, and designing research experiments in an area related to research being performed; ability to grow plants in a greenhouse environment; familiarity with field research methodologies used in plant breeding; or an equivalent combination of education and experience. The position also require a willingness to learn operation of field research equipment including but not limited to tractors, planters, combines, UAVs and spectrophotometers.

Preferred Qualifications:

- M.S. in Plant Breeding, Genetics, Agronomy, Plant Pathology or related field
- Experience working with plant pathogens
- Experience in greenhouse management
- Ability to conduct statistical analyses using R, SAS or other software packages
- Demonstrated proficiency in operating field research implements
- Effective verbal and written communication skills
- Ability to obtain a class A CDL

Required Applicant Documents:

Curriculum Vitae
Cover Letter
Two reference letters

See [www.jobs.msu.edu](http://www.jobs.msu.edu) posting #2181 to apply. Application review will begin October 27, 2015, and will continue until the position is filled.

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