



Extension Field Specialist in Livestock

Assistant/Associate/Full Extension Professional - Jackson, Missouri

Please apply at <https://hrs.missouri.edu/find-a-job/academic>

Job ID 37109

Job Description

LOCATION: Jackson, Missouri and primarily serves Cape Girardeau and Perry, Bollinger, Scott, Stoddard, New Madrid, Mississippi, Butler, Wayne, Dunklin and Pemiscot Counties in the Southeast Region, with additional service across the state as needed.

The University of Missouri (MU) Office of Extension and Engagement's distinct land-grant mission is to improve lives, communities and economies by producing relevant, reliable and responsive educational strategies throughout Missouri. Our dedicated and knowledgeable faculty and staff collaborate with researchers and community leaders to develop and deliver programs that address needs of Missourians including: educational attainment; environmental concerns; community, economic, business and workforce development; global food systems; and health systems. For more information about MU Extension and Engagement, please visit <https://extension2.missouri.edu/>

Extension faculty are 12-month, non-tenure track appointments to the promotable ranks of assistant, associate, or full Extension Professional. The rank at time of appointment or promotion is consistent with the standards of achievement and experience established by the faculty. MU Extension faculty are commonly known as Specialists, with titles that indicate geographic focus and programmatic specialization. Specialists provide educational opportunities that enable businesses, farms, families and communities to strengthen the economy and enhance quality of life. Additionally, specialists create partnerships with civic and business organizations, educational institutions, local leaders and key stakeholders to identify priorities, increase resources, and determine how research-based education can best meet the needs of residents.

The MU Extension's Agriculture and Environment (A&E) Extension program is strategically focused on the goal of improving Missourian's quality of life, enhance the economic viability of Missouri enterprises, while protecting the environment and the state's natural resources. MU Extension research-based programs promote, enhance, and develop efficient and viable production, management, and sustainable systems.

The goal of Agriculture and Environment Extension, as stated in 2018, is to double the economic value of Missouri agriculture by 2030 while sustaining our natural resources. Regardless of specialty, every position contributes to this goal.

An essential part of reaching this goal comes through the Small Business Development Center for Agriculture, Food and Forestry at MU. This Center is a partnership between MU's Agriculture and Environment Extension Program and Missouri's Small Business Development Centers.

We expect this position to work with Center colleagues to develop and expand agribusinesses in Missouri. We will evaluate the incumbent on their ability to foster economic growth via Center efforts. Specific evaluation criteria include new sales, new jobs, and business investments in the specialist's discipline and coverage area.

This position will be filled as a 0.90 FTE (36 hours per week).

CORE DUTIES OF EXTENSION FACULTY

The core duties of MU Extension faculty are to Educate, Create, and Connect. The emphasis among these duties and specific deliverables will vary for different appointments and evolve from year to year, direction for which is developed in an annual plan of work for the program area and for the individual.

- *Educate.* Extension Faculty deliver onsite and virtual Extension teaching and programming, online courses, continuing education, technical assistance, and consultation. Field Specialists work alongside State Specialists to support the individual, organizational, and community goals of Missouri learners and clients. Field Specialists work primarily in named programs focusing on state-wide efforts lead by state specialists such as Show Me Select Heifer Program, Show Me Quality Assurance or Pearls of Production.
- *Create.* Field Specialists collaborate with State Specialists to develop innovative and research-based educational materials and scholarly products, such as curricula, publications, presentations, websites, apps, and other teaching resources. Part of this collaboration includes methods to evaluate and improve how programs and services result in learning, behavior change, and impact on the individuals and communities. Field Specialists contribute to the scholarship of extension, which may include applied research as opportunity allows.
- *Connect.* Field Specialists engage with communities and stakeholders, which include Extension Councils, government officials and agencies, commodity groups, nonprofit organizations, agribusinesses, and key producers. Field Specialists need to leverage opportunities to engage in demonstration activities on AES Research Centers in their regions. Strong connections help generate revenue to sustain and grow valued programming through grants, contracts, fees, gifts, and partnerships. Extension faculty foster diversity and inclusiveness by providing educational programs that connect to the varied needs of Missourians and their communities

Specialist Emphasis

- *Program specialization:* This position is responsible for planning, implementing, and evaluating educational programs in the following subject-matter areas: livestock production, livestock management, nutrition, reproduction, genetics, animal health and welfare, and sustainability. In addition, effective specialists will apply interdisciplinary knowledge related to general agricultural and agronomy needs in the counties served.

Professional expectations

- All Extension Faculty, regardless of appointment category or type, are expected to demonstrate competency in Communication, Educational Programming and Knowledge of Subject Matter, Inclusivity, Information and Education Delivery, Interpersonal Relations, Knowledge of Organization, Leadership, Organizational Management, and Professionalism.
- All Extension Faculty, regardless of appointment category or type, are expected to actively pursue resources to support both local and organizational operations and programming through grants, contracts, gifts, fees and partnerships.
- Field Specialists are crucial to the success of Extension through engagement with local and/or regional stakeholders to identify needs, and then collaborate with appropriate faculty, both on and off-campus, to meet those needs. Field Specialists are expected to be involved in the development of applied studies and the subsequent delivery of those findings through, but not limited to, demonstration, field days, workshops, print, digital and other electronic media as appropriate. The percentage of time spent on engagement and applied studies may differ between county engagement specialist appointments and field specialist appointments.
- Field Specialists should actively participate in professional development opportunities to continuously improve skills and increase research-based knowledge. Participate in interdisciplinary teams, committees and task forces. Work with faculty and staff located in county offices, across program disciplines and regions, with boards and organizations and with other campuses throughout Missouri with a positive outlook, high personal standard of excellence, and passion for the mission, vision and values of MU Extension.
- Specialists travel throughout Missouri regularly, using own transportation, with occasional travel out of state. Extension Faculty must work effectively, flexibly, and independently, often with little guidance. Working evenings and weekends is often required to meet the needs of learners, clients, and stakeholders.
- Other duties and responsibilities will be expected to support the mission and purpose of MU Extension.
- Conduct all activities in accordance with the Civil Rights Acts, Title IX, Rehabilitation, Americans with Disabilities Act and local, state and region affirmative action plans.

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

The University of Missouri, also known as Mizzou and MU, is the Flagship University of the four-campus University of Missouri system. It is the state's land-grant university and one of the most comprehensive universities in the United States. MU's broad undergraduate programs and its' graduate, professional and research programs attract annual enrollment of more than 30,000 students. MU is centrally located in Columbia, MO, which is consistently ranked as one of America's most livable cities. MU Extension and Engagement programs are located on all four campuses and in 114 counties and St. Louis city.

LEADERSHIP RECEIVED

Primary Supervision is received from the Animal Health & Production Education Director. Regional Directors serve as secondary supervisors.

QUALIFICATIONS

An earned doctorate or master's degree in Animal science or related field at time of appointment.

Candidates will be evaluated on:

Successful candidates will have college level courses in nutrition, genetics, reproduction, and production management of beef and/or swine enterprises.

Demonstrated ability in applying and transferring research-based knowledge in livestock production systems is necessary.

Viable candidates may also have experience in dairy production, poultry production, small ruminant production, equine management, or marketing.

Experiences working with diverse audiences in an agricultural/rural environment.

Effective and innovative teaching strategies that engage others, including strong listening, written, and oral communication skills.

Must be able to integrate new and emerging technology into teaching strategies. Experience in designing, conducting and evaluating educational programs, and applying research-based knowledge in subject matter areas related to community cooperation and collaboration, capacity assessment and action planning, needs assessment, citizen participation, leadership, resource management, and volunteerism is desired.

MU is fully committed to achieving the goal of a diverse and inclusive academic community of faculty, staff and students. We seek individuals who are committed to this goal and our core campus values of respect, responsibility, discovery, and excellence.

Candidates must demonstrate they are authorized to work in the United States. Sponsorship of U.S. temporary employment visas will not be offered for this position.

Application Materials

Complete the brief online application and be prepared to upload:

- Cover Letter
- Resume/CV
- Copies of all academic transcripts, and
- a list of 3-5 references

Benefit Eligibility

This position is eligible for University benefits. The University offers a comprehensive benefits package, including medical, dental and vision plans, retirement, and educational fee discounts. For additional information on University benefits, please visit the Faculty & Staff Benefits website at <http://www.umsystem.edu/totalrewards/benefits>

Diversity Commitment

The University of Missouri is fully committed to achieving the goal of a diverse and inclusive academic community of faculty, staff and students. We seek individuals who are committed to this goal and our core campus values of respect, responsibility, discovery and excellence.

Equal Employment Opportunity

Equal Opportunity is and shall be provided for all employees and applicants for employment on the basis of their demonstrated ability and competence without unlawful discrimination on the basis of their race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, protected veteran status, or any other status protected by applicable state or federal law. This policy shall not be interpreted in such a manner as to violate the legal rights of religious organizations or the recruiting rights of military organizations associated with the Armed Forces or the Department of Homeland Security of the United States of America. For more information, call the Vice Chancellor of Human Resource Services/Affirmative Action officer at 573-882-4256.

To request ADA accommodations, please call the Disability Inclusion and ADA Compliance Manager at 573-884-7278. EEO IS THE LAW

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