



Agricultural Research Service

Department: **Department Of Agriculture**

Agency: **Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service**

Vacancy Announcement Number: ARS-X4W-0138

Vacancy Announcement

[← Back to Search Results](#)

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

*Those who applied under vacancy announcement# ARS-X3W-3326 need not re-apply.
You will be considered under this vacancy announcement.

Announcement Type: ALL SOURCES/ALTERNATIVE MERIT PROMOTION
Position Title: Interdisciplinary : Chemical Engineer; Research Chemist; Research Food Technologist, Research Physical Scientist
Series/Grade: GS-893/1320/1382/1301- 13/14
Salary: GS-13 = \$62,170.00 - \$80,818.00 Per Annum (Plus 25% COLA)
GS-14 = \$73,467.00 - \$95,508.00 Per Annum (Plus 25% COLA)
Type of Appointment: Permanent
Location of Position: Subarctic Agricultural Research Unit, Fairbanks, Alaska
Announcement Number: ARS-X4W-0138
Opening Date: January 12, 2004
Closing Date: March 1, 2004
Area of Consideration: All U.S. Citizens

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

DUTIES: The incumbent will conduct research to develop effective and economical utilization of byproducts from fish processing, particularly to convert these waste byproducts into high-value useful products. The incumbent (1) characterizes processed and separated waste stream components to identify chemical constituents that have value-added uses or that enhance the nutritional or feeding acceptability of processed fish or animal feeds; and (2) conducts basic studies leading to a better understanding of factors influencing the effects of specific constituents and/or their interactions on end-product quality and value. This will involve chemical and biochemical analysis of the process waste stream components, determining which byproducts can be effectively treated to alter them into nutritious feed supplements, and/or developing processes to remove non-nutritious components. The incumbent will also develop techniques for extracting, processing, and storing high-value minor constituents of the waste byproducts that may contribute to the economic viability of waste byproduct processing. The research program is cooperative with the University of Alaska School of Fisheries & Ocean Sciences at Fairbanks, Alaska.

QUALIFICATIONS: BASIC REQUIREMENT: Applicant must meet at least one of the Basic Requirements.
A Ph.D. is highly desirable.

Chemical Engineer: Degree: professional engineering. To be acceptable, the curriculum must: (1) be in a school of engineering with at least one curriculum accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) as a professional engineering curriculum; or (2) include differential and integral calculus and courses (more advanced than first-year physics and chemistry) in

five of the following seven areas of engineering science or physics: (a) statics, dynamics; (b) strength of materials (stress-strain relationships); (c) fluid mechanics, hydraulics; (d) thermodynamics; (e) electrical fields and circuits; (f) nature and properties of materials (relating particle and aggregate structure to properties); and (g) any other comparable area of fundamental engineering science or physics, such as optics, heat transfer, soil mechanics, or electronics.

Research Chemist: Degree: physical sciences, life sciences, or engineering that included 30 semester hours in chemistry, supplemented by course work in mathematics through differential and integral calculus, and at least 6 semester hours of physics. OR

Combination of education and experience - course work equivalent to a major as shown above including at least 30 semester hours in chemistry, supplemented by mathematics through differential and integral calculus, and at least 6 semester hours of physics, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

Research Food Technologist: Degree: food technology, or dairy technology, microbiology, biology, chemistry, physics, or a related discipline or field of biological or physical science. The course work must have been comprised of at least 30 semester hours in the basic biological and physical sciences, and included at least 20 semester hours in food technology and closely related subjects, or 20 semester hours in subjects that can be applied directly to food technology. OR

Combination of education and experience - courses equivalent to a major, including the course work specified, as shown above plus appropriate experience or additional education.

General Physical Science: Degree: physical science, engineering, or mathematics that included 24 semester hours in physical science and/or related engineering science such as mechanics, dynamics, properties of materials, and electronics. OR

Combination of education and experience - education equivalent to one of the majors shown in above that included at least 24 semester hours in physical science and/or related engineering science, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

GS-13: After meeting the basic requirement above the candidate must have 1 year Specialized Experience equivalent to the GS-12 level in the Federal service.

GS-14: After meeting the basic requirement above the candidate must have 1 year Specialized Experience equivalent to the GS-13 level in the Federal service.

Specialized Experience is defined as: professional research experience that has equipped the applicant with :

1. Ability to conceive, plan, and conduct protein/lipid research.
2. Ability to document research results in technical journals, and make presentations at scientific meetings and conferences.

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 required)
- Veterans' Preference (If applicable--see "Veterans' Preference" below for required forms and documentation)
- Highest Federal civilian grade held (if applicable)
- 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.
- 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
- A one-page abstract of MS thesis and/or PhD dissertation.
- List of:
 - Names, addresses, and phone numbers of persons familiar with applicants stature, contributions, and recognition;
 - Honors and awards;
 - Memberships in professional or honor societies;
 - Invitations to make presentations at scientific/
 - Technical meetings;
 - Scientific society office and committee assignments;
 - Presentations (other than invitations); and
 - Publications.

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.
- This position is being filled in accordance with the Alternative Merit Promotion system. All merit promotion principles remain in effect.
- 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.
- Vacant research positions may be filled at any one of several grade levels depending upon the scientific impact of the person selected. A peer review may be required to determine the appropriate grade level of the position and supplemental materials from the selectee may be required.
- Relocation Expenses: Relocation expenses will be paid 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.

- Promotion Potential: Research scientists have open-ended promotion potential. Research accomplishments and their impact on the duties and responsibilities of positions are evaluated periodically. The grade level is limited only by the individual's demonstrated ability to perform research of recognized importance to science and technology.

- 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.

- Applicants are encouraged to submit an AD-1086, USDA Applicant Supplemental Sheet.

- 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.

- 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 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, DC Relay Service: 202-855-1234 (TDD), or email: sdixon@ars.usda.gov. 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: Ms. Franky Reese, Human Resources Specialist on (301) 504-1555

Submit applications to:

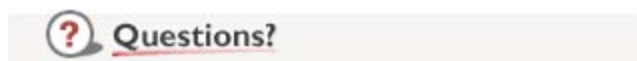
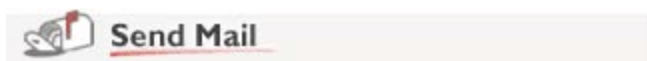
USDA, Agricultural Research Service
Human Resources Division
ATTN: Western Services Branch/ ARS-X4W-0138
5601 Sunnyside Avenue
Beltsville, MD 20705-5106

FAX applications to: 301-504-1535
E-MAIL applications to: scirecruit@ars.usda.gov

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)

(If submitting applications via E-mail, be sure to mail college transcripts separately and include the announcement number of the position vacancy.)



Send Mail to:
Department Of Agriculture
5601 Sunnyside Ave.
Beltsville, MD 20705-5106
Fax: 301-504-1535

For questions about this job:
Franky Reese
Phone: 301-504-1555
Fax: 301-504-1535
Internet: scirecruit@ars.usda.gov

USAJOBS Control Number: 172367

[EEO Policy Statement](#) | [Reasonable Accommodation Policy Statement](#) | [Veterans Information](#)