

Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service

Job Title:Interdisciplinary Veterinary Medical Officer/Animal Scientist/Microbiologist

Department:Department Of Agriculture

Agency:Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Job Announcement Number:24VS-2013-0072

SALARY RANGE: \$101,035.00 to \$136,771.00 / Per Year

OPEN PERIOD: Monday, April 15, 2013 to Monday, May 20, 2013

SERIES & GRADE: GS-0403/0487/0701-14

POSITION INFORMATION: Full-Time - Permanent

PROMOTION POTENTIAL:

14

DUTY LOCATIONS: 1 vacancy in the following location(s):
Conyers, GA, [USView Map](#)

Riverdale, MD, [USView Map](#)

WHO MAY APPLY: This announcement is open to all United States citizens. (Current and Former Federal employees may also apply with a separate application to Merit Promotion vacancy announcement #6VS-2013-0085. For information on viewing Merit Promotion announcements, click [Locating a Status Position on USAJOBS.](#))

JOB SUMMARY:

Relocation expenses will not be paid

This position is located with the Aquaculture, Swine, Equine and Poultry (ASEP) Unit, National Center for Animal Health Programs (NCAHP), Veterinary Services (VS). The incumbent serves as Senior Coordinator, the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) and collaborates with a NPIP Staff Officer in the direction, administration, and coordination of the NPIP.

You can make a difference! The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Marketing and Regulatory Programs (MRP) needs bright, energetic and committed professionals to facilitate the domestic and international marketing of U.S. agricultural products and to protect the health and care of animals and plants in the United States. MRP offers an array of occupations and is committed to diversity in the workplace. We operate in domestic and global markets. Be part of an organization that protects the health and agriculture of the American people. Join our team!

APHIS is an emergency response agency. This means that all Agency employees may be asked or assigned to participate in rotating temporary duty assignments to support emergency programs at some time during their careers with APHIS. For details click: [APHIS Emergency Response](#)

KEY REQUIREMENTS

- U.S. Citizenship
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DUTIES:

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The duties may include, but are not limited to:

- Provides national leadership in directing and coordinating the NPIP. Serves as Chairperson of the National and Regional conferences and as Executive Secretary of the General Conference Committee.
- Collaborates with NPIP Staff officer in the planning, organizing, and conducting of the Biennial National Plan Conference and General Conference Committee meetings (Secretary's Advisory Committee) of the NPIP.
- Participates in developing broad policy and specific objectives for the NPIP, taking into account the most critical needs of the poultry industry.
- Advises, consults, and maintains relationships with State poultry officials through personal contacts and participation in State, Regional, and National meetings, along with workshops to coordinate within individual States the organization of poultry improvement programs in accordance with provisions of the NPIP.
- Analyzes and evaluates current programs to assure attainment of program objectives, makes recommendations to cooperating boards and Committees, submits plans for extension, change, or discontinuance of current lines of work as appropriate, and coordinates industry action resulting from these recommendations and plans.

- Incumbent works with NPIP Staff Officer to insure uniform coordination of the different field and laboratory protocol and procedures for Salmonella contained in the provisions of the NPIP.
 - Collaborates with the NPIP Staff officer to oversee the uniform coordination of the different field and laboratory protocol and procedures for avian Mycoplasmas contained in the provisions of the NPIP.
 - Serves in a significant role with the NPIP Staff officer in coordinating different field and laboratory protocols and procedures for avian influenza contained in the provisions of the NPIP.
 - Provides authoritative technical support in the collection, assembly, and analysis of records pertaining to serological assays, bacteriological examinations, polymerase chain reaction type tests, DNA fingerprinting of isolates (RAPD & pulse gel electrophoresis), flock and hatchery classifications, and related poultry improvement work on a national basis.
 - Provides leadership in the collection, assembly, and analysis of records pertaining to the blood testing, flock and hatchery classification, and related poultry improvement work on a national basis.
 - Contributes to developing programs designed to encourage Plan participants in adopting improvement practices compatible with, but not necessarily required by the provisions of the plan.
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QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:

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To qualify, you **MUST** meet all qualification requirements by the closing date of the announcement.

VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER BASIC REQUIREMENT

1. Degree: Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) or equivalent degree, i.e., Veterinary Medical Doctor (VMD), obtained at a school or college of veterinary medicine accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education (AVMA). The AVMA web site has a listing of all AVMA-accredited veterinary medical schools. AVMA web site: <http://www.avma.org> OR

2. Graduates of foreign veterinary medical schools that are not accredited by the AVMA Council on Education must meet one of the following requirements: (Refer to AVMA web site <http://www.avma.org> for information about schools in this category.)

- a) Proof of certification of their final transcript by the Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates (ECFVG);
- b) Possession of a permanent, full, and unrestricted license to practice veterinary medicine in a State, District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or a territory of the United States that includes successful completion of the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE) or its predecessors, the National Board Examination (NBE) and the Clinical Competency Test (CCT); OR
- c) Proof that the education obtained in a foreign veterinary medical program is equivalent to that gained in a veterinary medical program that is accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education. An AVMA-accredited veterinary medical school or college must have accepted the final transcript from the foreign veterinary medical school at full value for placement into an advanced degree, postgraduate educational program, or training program (e.g., residency or graduate program).

In addition, graduates of foreign veterinary medical programs must also provide proof of proficiency in the English language by successfully completing one of the nationally and internationally recognized examinations that incorporate assessments of reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. Examples of examinations that assess mastery of the English language are shown below: a) Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) - Minimum scores for the TOEFL are 560 for the paper-based version; 220 for the computer-based version; or overall score of 83 for the internet-based version (including 26 or higher in speaking, 26 or higher in listening, and 17 or higher in writing). For the computer-based and paper-based test versions, applicants must also complete the Test of Spoken English (TSE) and the Test of Written English (TWE). Minimum required scores are 55 for the TSE and 5.5 for the TWE. b) Academic tests (listening, writing, and speaking) offered by the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). Applicants must achieve a minimum overall band score of 7.0, with at least 7.0 in speaking, 6.5 in listening, and 6.0 in writing; OR c) Canadian Academic English Language Assessment (CAEL). Applicants must achieve a minimum overall band score of 70, with at least 60 in speaking, 60 in listening, and 50 in writing.

Graduates of foreign veterinary medical programs must submit test results with their application. Results of more than one test or testing session cannot be combined to meet the standard. Waiver Provision: English language proficiency assessments may be waived for qualified job applicants whose native language is English (i.e., the official or common language of an individual's country of birth is English) who submit a diploma or other official documentation as proof

of graduation from a high (secondary) school where the entire curriculum and educational programs were taught in the English language for the entire 3 or 4 years of full-time attendance.

ANIMAL SCIENTIST (0487) BASIC REQUIREMENT:

1. Degree: animal science, dairy science, poultry science; or a related discipline or field of animal science that included at least 30 semester hours in the basic biological and agricultural sciences, and 20 semester hours in animal science; at least 10 of the required 20 semester hours in animal science must have been in courses dealing with the breeding, feeding, production, and management of livestock, and the care and preparation of their products. OR

2. Combination of education and experience -- courses equivalent to a major in the basic biological and agricultural sciences, including a minimum of 20 semester hours in appropriate animal science subjects, as described in A above, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

MICROBIOLOGIST (0403) BASIC REQUIREMENT:

1. Degree: microbiology; or biology, chemistry, or basic medical science that included at least 20 semester hours in microbiology and other subjects related to the study of microorganisms, and 20 semester hours in the physical and mathematical sciences combining course work in organic chemistry or biochemistry, physics, and college algebra, or their equivalent. Transcripts required. OR

2. Combination of education and experience - courses equivalent to a major in microbiology, biology, chemistry, or basic medical science that included courses as shown in A above, plus appropriate experience or additional education. Transcripts required if qualifying based on this provision. Examples of qualifying education can be found at the following web address: [Examples of Qualifying Education](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/mrpbs/hr/job_opportunities/usajobs.shtml)
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/mrpbs/hr/job_opportunities/usajobs.shtml

TRANSCRIPTS are required if:

- This position requires specific coursework or a degree in a specific field to be basically qualified.
- You are qualifying for this position based on a combination of experience and education.

IN ADDITION TO MEETING THE BASIC REQUIREMENTS, SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE AT THE GS-14 GRADE LEVEL: Applicants must have one year of progressively responsible, professional veterinary experience that demonstrates the ability to independently perform the veterinary medical duties required of the position being filled. Experience must be equivalent to the next lower Federal

grade level. This experience may have been obtained in the private or public (local, county, state, Federal) sectors. **Examples of qualifying experience include, but are not limited to:**

- Experience in veterinary medicine, animal science, or microbiology that relates to poultry diseases. This experience should include being national recognized as an expert in national poultry disease control programs.
- Experience with poultry diseases such as salmonella, mycoplasma and avian influenza infections. This experience includes developing new techniques to create uniform policies and protocols for controlling and preventing these diseases.
- Experience in the poultry breeding industry and commercial layer, broilers and turkey industry. This should include an understanding of embryology, hatching egg sanitation, hatchery workflow or management, and commercial poultry breeding genetics and practices.

THERE IS NO EDUCATION SUBSTITUTION FOR THE GS-14 GRADE LEVEL.

Special Conditions:

- Males born after 12/31/59 must be registered with the Selective Service.
- DD214 (Member 4 copy) or other veterans' documents required to receive veterans' preference.
- Transcripts must be submitted for this position.
- Foreign DVM's - See Qualifications section for required paperwork.
- As a condition of employment, a background investigation may be required for this position.
- Subject to satisfactory completion of one year probationary period.
- Travel may be required.
- This is an interdisciplinary position and may be filled in any of the job series/position titles listed. In addition to the specialized experience requirements, applicants must submit proof that they meet the educational requirements for at least one of the series described in the announcement. Applicants may only be appointed to job series/position titles for which they meet all experience and educational requirements.
- We understand that accepting a position with Veterinary Services may require the need for spousal career placement assistance. To help you and your family make a successful career transition, Veterinary Services is dedicated to providing information on career placement assistance. Please visit the following web links for more information: <http://www.job-hunt.org/jobs/states.shtml> http://www.job-hunt.org/state_unemployment_offices.shtml
- This position is subject to unscheduled overnight details of undetermined lengths in the event of animal health emergencies or other conditions requiring immediate response, as required by the Agency. (Extensive periods of time may be designated for overnight details.)
- Individuals must be physically and mentally able to safely and efficiently perform the full-range of duties of the position without creating hazards to themselves or others.

HOW YOU WILL BE EVALUATED:

- Your application will be rated on the extent and quality of your experience, education and training relevant to the position. Your resume must support that you meet the specialized experience requirements described above and are proficient in the following skills or competencies below. *Please note you are not required to provide specific narrative responses to the skills and competencies described in this section.*
 - General knowledge of Veterinary Medicine, Microbiology, and/or Biological Science
 - Knowledge of animal diseases and related information
 - Ability to administer a regulatory program to detect, survey, control, and eradicate livestock, poultry, and other animal diseases
 - Communication Skills - Interpersonal, Oral and Written
 - Ability to lead and supervise others
 - Knowledge of biotechnology and its application to protecting animal health
- Category rating procedures will be used to rank and select eligible candidates. The following quality categories will be used: Best Qualified, Well Qualified, and Qualified. Within each quality category, veterans' preference eligibles will receive selection priority over non-veterans.
- Your final category placement will be based on your responses to the assessment questionnaire. Please ensure your resume provides enough detail to support your responses.
- If, after reviewing your resume and / or supporting documentation, a determination is made that you have inflated your qualifications and or experience, your score can / will be adjusted to more accurately reflect your abilities. Please follow all instructions carefully. Errors or omissions may affect your rating. Deliberate attempts to falsify information may be grounds for not selecting you.

To preview questions please [click here](#).

BENEFITS:

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Eligibility for employee benefits depends on your type of appointment and your tour of duty (work schedule). Generally, you must be hired on a permanent basis and have a regular full or part-time work schedule. For more information on potential benefits, go to: [Federal Employee Benefits](#)

Salary:

Conyers, GA:

Range for GS-14: \$101,035 to \$131,343 (incl. 19.29% locality pay)

Riverdale, MD :

Range for GS-14: \$105,211 to \$136,771 (incl. 24.22% locality pay)

OTHER INFORMATION:

- For information regarding CTAP eligibility for applicants who are displaced Federal employees click on the link below: [Career Transition Assistance Programs](#)
 - More than one selection may be made if another vacancy occurs within 90 days of the issuance of the certification of eligibles.
 - 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 and TDD).
 - For information on filing a complaint of discrimination, click: [Filing a Complaint](#)
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HOW TO APPLY:

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A complete on-line application will require the submission of the following:

- **Resume**
- **Responses to the vacancy specific questions (you will be prompted to complete these questions during the online application process)**
- **Supporting Documentation which may be required (see links under Required Documents for more information)**

For instructions on using the on-line system click: [APPLYING ON-LINE](#)

For instructions on submitting documents click: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION](#)

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

Click on the following links to see if the supporting documentation is applicable to you:

- [College Transcripts or List of Coursework - MUST be English \(Key Requirement and/or Education Substitution\)](#)
- [Foreign Degree Evaluation \(Key Requirement and/or Education Substitution\)](#)
- [DD-214 \(Member 4 Copy\) and other Veterans' documents \(Veterans Preference\)](#)
- [ICTAP/CTAP eligibility documentation \(Displaced Employees\)](#)

Critical Submission Requirements and Reminders

- Help in applying online is available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Central Time at the number listed in the Contact information section.
- All application materials and supplemental documentation will be accepted until midnight Eastern Time on the closing date.
- Application and supporting documentation will not be accepted via e-mail.
- Due to the high volume of applicants, we are unable to confirm receipt of supporting documentation. If faxing, you should retain confirmation of a successful fax transmission including the number of pages successfully transmitted as proof of submission.
- If a document is resubmitted, it replaces the previous submission, which means the previous document is no longer available to the human resources office. If you are adding to, rather than replacing a previous submission, you must fax and/or upload both the old document and the new document.
- Applicants who cannot apply on-line must request a hard copy application packet from the Agency Contact listed in the vacancy announcement. Resumes and/or supporting documentation alone will not be considered without the inclusion of a hard copy application packet.

AGENCY CONTACT INFO:

DO NOT EMAIL DOCUMENTS

Phone: 612-336-3345

Fax: 612-336-3560

Email: Mary.M.Buresh@aphis.usda.gov

Agency Information:

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

100 N 6th Street, Butler Sq Bldg, 510C

Minneapolis, MN

55403

US

Fax: 612-336-3560

WHAT TO EXPECT NEXT:

You may check the status of your application on-line 24 hours a day through USAJOBS. Status updates will be available after 2-3 weeks. For instructions on checking your application status click: [Checking My Application Status](#). No additional correspondence will be sent.