

Job Announcement

Position: Seasonal Research Assistant
Filing Period: Until filled.
Starting Salary: \$16.00 / hour (\$1,280 biweekly)
Benefits: None
Status: Temporary, at-will employee
Location: Kern Mosquito & Vector Control District
4705 Allen Road
Bakersfield, CA 93314

Position Summary:

Kern Mosquito and Vector Control District is seeking an enthusiastic and interested individual to join the mosquito surveillance team. Under the direct supervision of the Scientific Program Director and Entomologist, the Research Assistant supports with field and laboratory activities.

Examples of Duties:

- Perform field inspection for the detection, control, and prevention of mosquitoes.
- Deploy mosquito traps and collection methods as outlined in protocols.
- Collect mosquito samples on timely manner from sites in the District's boundary.
- Keep accurate records of field specimen/data collection and pesticide applications.
- Assist in mosquito identification, using microscope, and data entry as needed.
- Maintain vehicles and equipment.
- Apply insecticides as necessary and according to the label.
- Perform other job-related duties as needed/assigned.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Enrolled in or have taken Entomology course(s)
- Knowledge about mosquito taxonomy, biology, and ecology
- Experience in using taxonomic guides to identify insects
- Knowledge/experience about different mosquito surveillance techniques
- Bilingual (English and Spanish)

Minimal Qualifications:

- High school graduate or its equivalent.
- Must be able to perform basic arithmetic, read and write capably and communicate with the general public.
- Must be able and willing to perform heavy physical labor.
- Possession of a valid California Class “C” Driver’s License is required at the time of appointment. Required to maintain a driving record that is acceptable to the District’s insurance carrier. DMV printout is required at time of appointment.
- Employment is contingent upon candidate passing a physical examination which includes a drug screen.

A Successful Incumbent Should be Able to:

- Work independently in the field.
- Operate a work vehicle safely and maintain a good driving record.
- Practice safety and good judgement and maintain field notes and records.
- Be flexible in accepting and implementing job-related assignments as needed from supervisors.
- Understand and effectively carry out verbal and written instructions, protocols, and regulations.
- Work cooperatively and respectfully with other employees and the public. Communicate with the public in a courteous and professional manner even when confronted by hostile individuals.
- Communicate clearly and effectively, both orally and in writing.
- Work in weather conditions with temperatures reaching above 100°F.
- Traverse uneven grounds such as basins, ditches, fields, ponds and similar areas of rough terrain.
- Able to lift up to 50 pounds.
- Bend at the knees and waist regularly – to deploy and collect mosquito traps.

Working Conditions:

The Research Assistant may be exposed to pesticides, chemicals, communicable diseases, other health hazards such as rattlesnakes, venomous spiders, and other wildlife, inclement weather conditions, and verbal confrontations from the public.

Apply:

Interested individuals can obtain an Employment application from the District office or from the District website (kernmosquito.com) and can submit the completed Employment application to the office or via email to kmvcd@kernmosquito.com.

Revised March 2022