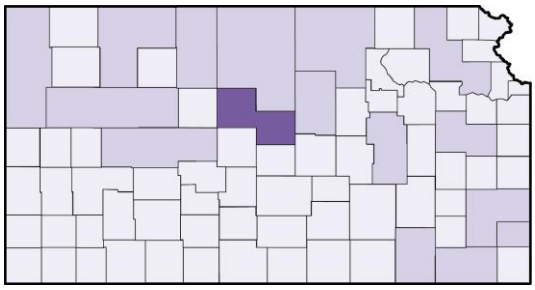
Position Announcement



Midway Extension District is located in Central Kansas along the Smoky Hill River in the Smoky Hills. The population of the district is roughly 13,500. Midway District has two lakes that provide recreational opportunities for local residents. The district has five school districts and two medical centers. The district staff is housed in offices in Ellsworth and Russell and when fully staffed, will include four agents and two office professionals.

TITLE: Midway District Extension Agent
PRIMARY AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY: Livestock Production
LOCATION: Offices in Ellsworth and Russell. Primary office location for this position is Russell.

APPLICATION DATE: Screening of applications will begin March 12, 2014, and continue until the position is filled. This position is available on or after March 12, 2014. The starting date is negotiable.

RESPONSIBILITIES
Extension agents are community based faculty of Kansas State University who make a difference by connecting community needs with university resources. Agents are administratively responsible to the area extension director and the local extension board. Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

1. In cooperation with the local extension board and other community partners identify needs and major educational priorities of the community. Develop a proactive educational plan to address those needs.
2. Provide primary leadership for the development, dissemination and implementation of research-based educational programs for livestock production, including but not limited to breed/meat quality/species selection and management, feed/nutrition, facilities, animal ID/marketing, and best management practices/sustainable production techniques.
3. Collaborate with local community members, partner organizations and extension faculty to develop and implement educational programming assuring that all citizens have equal access to programming.
4. Utilize a variety of educational strategies to implement educational programming. Examples include informal classes, presentations, media, volunteers, demonstrations, experiential learning, distance learning and group facilitation. Some overnight travel and evening and weekend work will be required.
5. Collect evidence of program impact to market, report results and improve the program.
6. Develop an area of program focus or subject matter expertise as a member of the Livestock Production Program Focus Team.
7. Provide support for the 4-H youth development program within the district, working with adult volunteers who provide opportunities for youth to develop leadership potential, self-esteem, citizenship, responsibility, and capacity.
8. Share responsibility in community educational programming that addresses community functions of leadership, government, health, economy, ecosystems and social well-being.
9. Develop and implement volunteer recruitment, training and management systems related to educational program needs.
10. Secure external funding, as necessary, to support educational programming.

QUALIFICATIONS
Required:
- Completed bachelor's degree with major course work, professional development and experience appropriate to the needs of the position (see responsibility #2 above); master's degree preferred.
- Evidence of strong academic and/or professional performance as demonstrated by one or more of the following – college transcripts, acceptance into a graduate program or documented success in increasingly responsible professional positions.
- Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with individuals, groups, and through mass media.
- Access to a personal vehicle and the ability to obtain/maintain a valid Kansas Driver's License.

Preferred:

- Experience working with adults and youth from various ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds.
- Commitment to personal professional development.
- Ability to utilize electronic communication and computer applications to fulfill programming responsibilities.
- Self-motivation and ability to work with a minimum of supervision, balancing multiple projects.
- Experience working with individuals, groups and co-workers to accomplish individual and/or group goals, as evidenced by previous leadership roles.
- Ability to design, promote, implement and evaluate educational programs.
- Skills in group facilitation.
- Knowledge of adult and youth teaching/learning processes.
- Experience in seeking and administering external grant funding.

SALARY, BENEFITS, AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Salary commensurate with professional experience and available funding as negotiated by the area extension director, the local extension board and the applicant.
2. Extension agents are faculty of Kansas State University and have benefits of university faculty, including the Kansas Board of Regents Retirement Plan, health and life insurance. Depending on the date of hire there is a minimum 30 days waiting period for health insurance. For a complete list of benefits, see **http://www.k-state.edu/hr/benefits/benefitssummary.htm.**
3. Twenty-two vacation and twelve sick leave days per year in addition to paid holidays.
4. Reimbursement for travel related to achieving program objectives.
5. New agents are provided approximately 15 days of new agent professional development on the K-State campus during the first six to nine months. These 15 days are spread out in four different weeks. In addition, new agents spend at least three weeks with a mentor agent during the first year.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The following application materials may be sent by email to: ksrejobs@ksu.edu, or mail to: Stacey Warner, Extension Operations, 121 Umberger Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506, or fax to: 785-532-3079. Receipt of your application will be confirmed by email.

1. Cover letter stating that you are applying for the Midway District Agent, Livestock Production position. The letter should address experiences related to the above mentioned responsibilities and qualifications.

2. Resume which includes the following: educational background, professional experience; professional organizations and activities; volunteer responsibilities; honors; and any other information important to communicate qualifications for this position. Also include the names, email addresses, and phone numbers for five professional references familiar with your work, including college professors if a recent graduate.

3. A copy of all college transcripts showing degrees completed. Photocopies of transcripts are acceptable during the application process. An original transcript will be requested upon hire.

4. Reference forms from five professional contacts. Reference forms are located at www.ksre.ksu.edu/jobinfo. Forms can be submitted by accessing the ONLINE link or a PDF version of the form can be printed, completed and submitted directly from your references by fax to 785-532-3079, by mail to the address on the form, or scanned and e-mailed to ksrejobs@ksu.edu.

5. A position offer is contingent on a successful pre-employment criminal background and driving record check. A Background Check Request form will be mailed to the successful applicant following the offer of employment.

To check the status of application materials, contact Doris Merrill, 785-532-5790, or email: ksrejobs@ksu.edu.
For more information about the position, contact Stacey Warner, Leader, Ext Operations, 785-532-5790, or swarner@ksu.edu.
To hear personal accounts from Extension Agents, preview videos at **www.ksre.ksu.edu/jobinfo**.
For more information about K-State Research and Extension, visit: **www.ksre.ksu.edu**.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Kansas State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer committed to non-discrimination on the basis of race, sex, national origin, disability, religion, age, sexual orientation, or other non-merit reasons (including employment of disabled veterans and veterans of the Vietnam era). EEO Coordinator: Stacey M. Warner, 121 Umberger Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506. EEO Counselor: Daryl D. Buchholz, 123 Umberger Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506.

2/13/14
Position #14-11

Stacey M. Warner

Stacey M. Warner
Leader, Extension Operations