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Research Virologist/Microbiologist/Physiologist (Immunology) – GS-12/13/14

Salary Range of \$79,363 to \$144,976

The USDA, ARS, Plant Genetics Research Unit (PGRU) in Columbia, Missouri is seeking a Research Virologist/Microbiologist/Physiologist (Immunology). The scientist will work in a multi-disciplinary team necessary to conduct research toward development of poultry and swine with improved traits of interest to these industries by using gene editing techniques. The long-term goals for this position are to 1) Use genome sequence data and develop a high throughput screening method for identifying genome sequence/alleles that influence disease resistance, 2) Identify host receptors for multiple viruses in both poultry and pigs that are responsible for infectivity, 3) Test improved alleles *in vitro* and *in vivo* where warranted, and comprehensively test effects of sequence modifications for on and off target effects, 4) Model whole-animal phenotypes using *in vitro* methods, 5) Develop poultry and pig genotypes that provide improved disease resistance traits to viral and/or bacterial pathogens, and 6) Interact with colleagues and University personnel engaged in gene editing in poultry and swine. Initially, the team will develop *in vitro* methods to model whole-animal phenotypes, and then use gene editing in cultured cells as a high throughput screening method for validation of candidate loci responsible for quantitative and qualitative traits. The findings are disseminated in the form of reports, presentations and publications in scientific journals. Publishing research in peer-reviewed scientific journals related to virology, immunology, physiology, genetics, molecular biology, and/or animal science will be required. The candidate collaborates with other ARS, university and private sector scientists to build a multi-disciplinary team necessary for this research.

U.S. Citizenship is required. For further information and complete application instructions, go to the USAJobs Web site: <https://www.usajobs.gov/> and refer to announcement number ARS-D22MWA-11615026-CLO. Applications must be received by the closing date of September 29, 2022.

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Human Resources Specialist

Date