

PhD POSITION IN FEED SAFETY

Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas

Position: Graduate Research Assistant-Feed Safety-PhD candidate

Background: The Feed Safety Team at Kansas State University is a multi-disciplinary collaboration of animal scientists, feed scientists, and veterinarians, in addition to a strong network of subject-matter collaborators. Researchers at K-State are recognized global leaders in feed science, applied swine production and nutrition and infectious disease research with extensive collaboration networks throughout the global swine industry. Thus, we are uniquely positioned to focus efforts on enhancing feed safety and feed biosecurity through all phases of the feed supply chain with the ultimate goal of improving animal health and performance to secure farm-to-fork food safety. While we focus our attention mostly in the area of swine-related risks, the topic of feed safety and biosecurity is in high demand in other fields as well, such as the poultry and pet food industries, food science, and veterinary medicine.

Position Description: We are seeking a PhD candidate to join our team. The candidate is expected to support and lead research to identify critical practices in the animal feed industry that minimize hazards and feed-related biological risks and develop highly applicable practices that promote feed and feed mill biosecurity. The successful candidate will be self-motivated, but work well in a team to conduct research to establish the risk, transmission, and mitigation of hazards through feed or ingredients. Furthermore, the successful candidate will collaborate with other researchers in parallel disciplines, such as livestock, poultry, and pet food safety, microbiology, veterinary epidemiology, virology, and infectious disease. The candidate shall create an environment that fosters diversity, collegiality, and must have the ability to work in a multi-cultural and multi-disciplinary setting.

Candidates must be able to perform experiments independently, prepare research reports, including poster and oral presentations, and submit manuscripts for publication. Candidates must be willing to work effectively in a collaborative environment and be willing to learn applied and basic research techniques. Candidates will be expected to maintain at least a 3.0 GPA in required coursework.

The position offers full tuition, a competitive stipend, and Graduate Student benefits.

Required Qualifications:

- MS in animal science, grain science, food science, veterinary diagnostic medicine, microbiology, virology, or other relevant discipline or DVM.
- Experience in animal production, feed manufacturing, diagnostic medicine, infectious disease research, or similar fields
- Ability to collaborate with interdisciplinary teams
- Excellent oral and written communication
- Speak and write English clearly

Preferred Qualifications:

- Laboratory experience with BSL-2 pathogens
- Demonstrated experience in grant writing and manuscript publication

How to Apply: Applicants should submit a curriculum vitae, unofficial transcripts, contact information for at least three references, and brief letter of interest stating how their background and qualifications match this position to Dr. Cassie Jones: jonesc@ksu.edu and Dr. Chad Paulk: cpaulk@ksu.edu.

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Background Check Required.*