

Graduate Research Assistantship (PhD) Available

Expressions of interest and applications are invited from prospective PhD students. This a full-time position and the successful candidate is anticipated to start in September 2021.

Co-supervisors: Drs. Moussa Diarra, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) and Dr. Elijah Kiarie, University of Guelph

Position Title: Graduate Research Assistant

Essential Qualifications

Education: Applicants must have completed BSc. and MSc. Degrees with specialization in food, molecular, medical microbiology, or related field.

Experience in: Working in a Level II microbiology laboratory with pathogenic bacteria within a multidisciplinary research team; Applying medical and molecular biology laboratory techniques using leading-edge molecular biology computation and instrumentations.

Knowledge of: interaction between Nutrition and Immunology, bacterial genetic, physiology and pathogenesis; Molecular biology and the biochemistry of nucleic acids, proteins, and microbiota

Competencies: Interactive Communication; Initiative; Teamwork; Problem Solving

Work Environment

The laboratories are located at the University of Guelph and the Guelph Research and Development Centre – Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Guelph, ON). The incumbent will apply molecular microbiology technics and bioinformatics tools while working with a food safety research team. The project aims to conduct a prospective study assessing various feeding programs to modulate gut microbiomes that support chicken health and immunity while reducing colibacillosis.

Duties

Under the supervision of two research scientists, the candidate will conduct research in advanced poultry nutrition for the development of cost-effective production method in order to improve poultry immunity. The area of basic and advanced molecular microbiology

and immunology will include bacterial isolation for gene screening, ELISA and extraction of DNA for sequence analysis; RT-PCR and other works as requested to reach the general objectives which is the evaluation of functional feedstuffs for enhancing poultry health and immunity against avian pathogenic *E. coli*.

Application Process

Assessment of applications will begin **August 1, 2021**, and will continue until the position is filled.

Applicants should submit curriculum vitae, a statement of research interests, list of publications, MSc. & BSc/DVM transcripts, and the names and email addresses of two persons who will serve as references to: ekiarie@uoguelph.ca

All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply.

The University of Guelph resides on the ancestral lands of the Attawandaron people, and the treaty lands and territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit and we offer our respect to our Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and Métis neighbors as we strive to strengthen our relationships with them.

At the University of Guelph, fostering a [culture of inclusion](#) is an institutional imperative. The University invites and encourages applications from all qualified individuals, including from groups that are traditionally underrepresented in research, who may contribute to further diversification of our Institution.