Position Information

The Extension Agent will work collaboratively with a team of Extension and research professionals and volunteers to provide innovative leadership for the Richland County Extension agriculture and natural resources program. Primary duties will be to provide educational programs in farm business management/farm marketing, cropping systems, livestock systems, horticulture, 4-H youth development, and community economic development and leadership. Supervision is provided by the Extension District Director serving Richland County.

This is a full-time position, planning and delivering educational programs in Richland County and when appropriate, cooperatively in neighboring counties. Office base for this position is the Richland County office of the NDSU Extension Service located in Wahpeton, ND.

This position includes, but is not limited to, the following responsibilities:

- Interpreting and integrating pertinent research information, teach, deliver, and evaluate educational programs in the areas of agriculture and natural resources.
- Leading agriculturally-related 4-H youth development-based programs with a measurable impact on enhancing life skills of youth, adults, and volunteers.
- Conducting needs and issues identification processes that result in programs based on the needs of county citizens.
- Cooperate and collaborate with local, county and state agencies, organizations and businesses to enhance agricultural leadership and programming opportunities, and utilize stakeholder input to formulate program plans to address issues that affect people throughout their life span.
- Collaborate with NDSU professionals to develop interdisciplinary programs, some of which will be delivered on a community of interest or program team basis.
- Ensure compliance with equal opportunity policies.
- Participate in professional development experiences offered by the NDSU Extension Service and other entities as appropriate.
- Perform other duties assigned in support of Extension programming.
- Some travel required.

Minimum Qualifications

1. Bachelor's degree in an agricultural discipline related to the position responsibilities, and the academic capacity to enroll in a relevant graduate program in the future.
2. Skills that demonstrate knowledge and expertise in an agricultural discipline and the understanding necessary to effectively communicate the knowledge and application to other disciplines.
3. Innovative program development and educational design skills to assess needs and issues, and develop, deliver and evaluate comprehensive learning experiences that help diverse youth and adult audiences enhance their lives and communities.
4. Information and technology skills necessary to reach and teach diverse audiences, work and communicate effectively, manage time and resources, and enhance one's ability to find, evaluate and disseminate information.
5. Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with individuals, groups and through mass media.
6. Organizational management skills including the ability to conduct oneself professionally, be self-directed in the work environment, work flexible and extended hours, and manage time and resources (including grant-writing) to efficiently accomplish the duties of the position.
7. Successful experience recruiting, selecting, training and motivating volunteers.
8. Familiarity with various ethnic and socioeconomic audiences, an interest and ability to work with people of diverse backgrounds, and a commitment to the principles of diversity.
9. Valid driver’s license.

Preferred Qualifications

1. Master's degree in an agricultural or relevant discipline.
2. Recent Extension Service work experience.
3. Working knowledge of and experience with 4-H and/or other youth programs.
4. Agronomy or Horticulture work experience.