Career Opportunities

The minimum educational requirement for an Extension agent position is a bachelor’s degree. In addition, completion of the NDSU Extension Education Minor, Extension Education Course (H&CE 446) and Fundamentals of Public Speaking (Comm 110), or similar, is recommended.

Current Extension agent and specialist openings: www.ag.ndsu.edu/careers/current-job-openings

All employment opportunities with NDSU: https://jobs.ndsu.edu/

How to apply: www.ag.ndsu.edu/careers http-www.ag.ndsu.edu-careers-apply.htm

The NDSU Extension Service provides solutions, inspires leaders and improves lives through practical education that people can trust. Agents work collaboratively and innovatively with Extension and research professionals to deliver education based on the latest research at NDSU and other universities in these program areas.

- Agriculture and Natural Resources includes crop management, farm business management, horticulture and forestry, livestock management and natural resource management
- Community Vitality includes business, community and leadership development; civic engagement; coaching in strategic planning and visioning; entrepreneurship and organizational development
- Family and Consumer Sciences includes family economics, food safety and health, human development and family science, and nutrition and wellness
- 4-H Youth Development includes citizenship and civic education, communication and expressive arts, consumer and family science, environmental science, personal development and leadership, plant and animal science, and science, engineering and technology

If you want to make a real difference in lives and communities and be rewarded for it, then explore a career as an Extension agent with the NDSU Extension Service.

A rewarding career begins here.

NDSU is an EEO/AA-M/F/Vet/Disability Employer

County commissioners, North Dakota State University and U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating, North Dakota State University does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, gender expression/identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, public assistance status, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or status as a U.S. veteran. Direct inquiries to the Vice President for Equity, Diversity and Global Outreach, Putnam 102, 701-231-7708. This publication will be made available in alternative formats for people with disabilities upon request, 701-231-7881.
Compensation, Benefits, Rewards and Recognition

As an Extension agent, you would provide the ideas, expertise and effort to help us fulfill our purpose of extending knowledge and changing lives. In exchange for your contributions, we would provide rewards and recognition to ensure you feel appreciated and remain motivated, energized and productive.

Compensation
- NDSU Extension Service values faculty and staff as its most vital resource for advancing its mission and educational programs. The primary goals of our total compensation package are to:
  - Attract, retain and motivate a highly talented, diverse workforce
  - Encourage and reward workplace efforts that support the organization’s overall goals and objectives
- We consider internal equity and external market in our pay practices according to prescribed guidelines; we recognize quality performance; and we encourage growth and development.
- We provide two incentive programs (Advanced Degree, and Learn and Lead) to give Extension agents the opportunity to add to their base pay and/or receive a cash stipend or supplemental professional development funds for work above standard expectations.

Health Insurance, Retirement Investments and Other Benefits
- NDSU is an employer of choice with its commitment to a well-rounded benefits package for employees and their families. The fully-funded individual and family health insurance has an annual value of over $13,500. Other benefits include retirement plans; paid vacation and sick leave; and tuition waiver for employees and their spouse/partner and dependents. See www.ndsu.edu/hr/benefits for a complete list of benefits.

Rewards and Recognition
- We recognize team-based Extension educational programs with Program Excellence Awards yearly.
- NDSU Agriculture annually presents awards for excellence in Extension, research and teaching. (www.ndsu.edu/vpag/award_categories)
- Agents and specialists who reach 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and more years of service are honored at our annual fall conference.
- Most of the professional associations to which Extension employees can belong have recognition programs in conjunction with their annual national meetings.

Lifelong Learning
- The NDSU Extension Service believes in ongoing personal and professional development and provides the staff with training in subject matter areas; personal and organizational management; educational design; program development and evaluation; and communications and technology. Extension professional associations also offer professional development. (www.ag.ndsu.edu/ProfessionalDevelopment)
- Opportunities are plentiful to exchange ideas, share common interests and build a professional network with other employees of the NDSU Extension Service and the national Cooperative Extension System.
- Grants, scholarships, awards and other funds are available to support professional development, and a Staff Resource Library with books, videos and other materials is available for self-study.

Work/Life Satisfaction
- NDSU promotes and supports work/life satisfaction for faculty and staff in a variety of ways: all geared toward creating a positive and productive work environment for our employees. (www.ndsu.edu/fileadmin/forward/documents/ FORW_6570_ResourcesBro.pdf)

What do agents say about their work?

I chose a career in Extension for the opportunity to educate, work in a diverse environment and make a difference in people’s lives.

Michael Knudson, Extension Agent, Agriculture and Natural Resources | Grand Forks County

I have always wanted a career in which I could help people, and delivering education is one way to do that. There is nothing better than seeing the impact of your programming efforts — knowing you’ve made a difference in someone’s life.

Christina Rittenbach, Extension Agent, Family and Consumer Sciences | Stutsman County

I chose a career in Extension because I want to make a positive difference in the lives of people who live in the communities we serve. I also value the variety of what happens day to day in Extension, from educating audiences in 4-H to diagnosing corn diseases with farmers.

Alyssa Scheve, Extension Agent, Agriculture and Natural Resources | Traill County