

Golden Prairie District is comprised of Trego, Gove, and Logan Counties in northwest Kansas. The current district staff consists of two agents, three office professionals, and two 4-H program assistants. The district has a combined population of approximately 9,000 with ten rural communities and six school districts. The average size of the 1,204 farms in the district is 1,358 acres. Primary crops include wheat, corn, grain sorghum, and forage crops with a majority in dry land production. Livestock operations within the district include but are not limited to cow/calf, sheep, swine, goats, and animal feeding operations.

TITLE: Golden Prairie District Extension Agent

PRIMARY AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY: Crop Production

LOCATION: Offices in WaKeeney, Grainfield and Oakley. Primary office location for this position is WaKeeney.

APPLICATION DATE: Screening of applications will begin August 8, 2017 and continue until the position is filled. This position is available on or after August 8, 2017. The starting date is negotiable.

Responsibilities:

Extension agents are professional educators who serve as a link between Kansas State University and communities across Kansas. Agents are administratively responsible to the Director of K-State Research and Extension (represented by a designated administrator) and the local extension board.

1. Provide primary leadership for the development, dissemination and implementation of research-based educational programs related to production, management and marketing issues involved in crop production. Programs will include but are not limited to: tillage, planting, and variety selection; irrigation; weed, disease, and pest control; soil testing and fertilization; harvesting and post-harvest handling; sustainable practices; soil and water conservation and quality; risk management including crop marketing, crop insurance, and farm bill; decision tools including crop leasing arrangements; and bio-energy.
2. Provide program support for livestock production including but not limited to breed/meat quality/species selection and management, feed/nutrition, facilities, animal ID/marketing, and best management practices/sustainable production techniques.
3. Provide support for 4-H youth development programming related to agriculture and natural resources.
4. Programming will include these steps:
 - a) Identify local needs and emerging issues related to K-State Research and Extension's five Grand Challenges (water, community vitality, health, developing tomorrow's leaders and global food systems) by engaging with program development committees and other community organizations and professionals.
 - b) Design appropriate educational strategies to engage clientele. These strategies might include delivering educational programming in a community-based setting, coordinating events and activities that provide experiential learning opportunities, using innovative technologies, providing individual educational consultations and facilitating groups seeking similar educational outcomes. Some overnight travel and evening and weekend work will be required.
 - c) Develop and implement strategies to expand the reach of educational programming to under-served audiences and to make certain K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider of educational programming.
 - d) Collect evidence of educational program impact.
 - e) Develop specialized knowledge and skills by engaging as a member of the Crop Production Program Focus Team.
5. Secure external funding such as grants, gifts and cost recovery to supplement local tax revenue to support and expand educational programming.
6. Serve as a member of the Golden Prairie District team cooperating in the planning and delivery of district-wide programming and related events



QUALIFICATIONS

Required:

- Bachelor's degree with knowledge of crop production as evidenced by academic courses, professional development and/or professional experience.
- Evidence of strong academic and/or professional performance as documented by college transcripts, acceptance into a graduate program or documented success in increasingly responsible professional positions.
- Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with individuals, groups and through mass media.
- Leadership skills as evidenced by working with individuals, groups and co-workers.
- Access to a personal vehicle and the ability to obtain/maintain a valid driver's license.

Preferred:

- Master's Degree.
- Knowledge of livestock production as evidenced from completion of animal science coursework and/or related experience.
- Experience working with adults and youth from various ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds.
- Commitment to personal professional development.
- Ability to utilize electronic communication and computer applications to fulfill programming responsibilities.
- Self-motivation and ability to work with a minimum of supervision, balancing multiple projects.
- Ability to design, promote, implement and evaluate educational programs.
- Skills in group facilitation.
- Knowledge of adult and youth teaching/learning processes.
- Experience in seeking and administering external grant funding.

SALARY, BENEFITS, AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

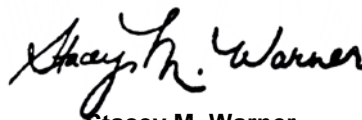
1. Salary commensurate with professional experience and available funding as negotiated by the area extension director, the local extension board and the applicant. The base starting salary is \$39,000 for a BS degree with no professional experience and \$42,000 for a MS degree with no professional experience.
2. Extension agents are Kansas State University educators and have the Board of Regents retirement plan, health and life insurance and vacation and sick leave. Depending on the date of hire there is a minimum of 30-day waiting period for health insurance. For a complete list of benefits see: <http://www.k-state.edu/hcs/benefits/overview/>
3. Reimbursement for travel related to achieving program objectives.
4. New agents are provided approximately 15 days of new agent professional development on the K-State campus during the first six to nine months. These 15 days are spread out in four different weeks. In addition, new agents spend at least three weeks with a mentor agent during the first year.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Submit application using the Kansas State University job application site: <http://careers.k-state.edu/cw/en-us/job/501808/golden-prairie-district-crop-production-extension-agent>

For more information about the position, contact Stacey Warner, Leader, Ext Operations, 785-532-5790, or swarner@ksu.edu. To hear personal accounts from Extension Agents, preview videos at www.ksre.k-state.edu/jobs. For more information about K-State Research and Extension, visit: www.ksre.k-state.edu.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Kansas State University is an Equal Opportunity Employer of individuals with disabilities and protected veterans and actively seeks diversity among its employees.



Stacey M. Warner
Leader, Extension Operations

7/11/2017
Position #17-26

