

## Re-issue

Sunflower Extension District is comprised of Cheyenne, Sherman and Wallace Counties in northwest Kansas. The district has a combined population of 10,853 residents. The district extension program plays a vital role in each county and embraces the importance of local leadership, community philanthropy, and youth engagement. There are 350 members of community 4-H clubs in the district and great opportunities exist for program expansion. Three extension agents, a multi-county crops and soils specialist and three office professionals serve the district.

**TITLE:** Sunflower District Extension Agent

**PRIMARY AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY:** 4-H Youth Development

**LOCATION:** Offices in Sharon Springs, Goodland and St. Francis. Primary office location for this position is Goodland.

**APPLICATION DATE:** Screening of applications will begin September 15, 2017 and continue until the position is filled. This position is available on or after September 15, 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 district wide leadership for the development, dissemination, and implementation of a research-based educational program for school-aged youth using a variety of delivery modes. Programming will be conducted with adult volunteers, other district agents, state and area extension faculty, and professionals in other youth-serving organizations who share the goal of providing opportunities for youth to develop leadership potential, self-esteem, citizenship, responsibility and capacity. Provide 4-H youth development management for the Sherman County program.
2. 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 a Program Focus Team.
3. Secure external funding such as grants, gifts and cost recovery to supplement local tax revenue to support and expand educational programming.
4. Serve as a member of the Sunflower District team cooperating in the planning and delivery of district-wide programming and related events.



## QUALIFICATIONS

### Required:

- Bachelor's degree with knowledge of youth development 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.
- 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/502150/sunflower-district-4h-youth-development-extension-agent>

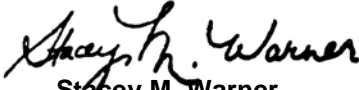
For more information about the position, contact Stacey Warner, Leader, Ext Operations, 785-532-5790, or [swarner@ksu.edu](mailto:swarner@ksu.edu).

To hear personal accounts from Extension Agents, preview videos at [www.ksre.k-state.edu/jobs](http://www.ksre.k-state.edu/jobs).

For more information about K-State Research and Extension, visit: [www.ksre.k-state.edu](http://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.

8/16/2017  
Position #17-06R

  
Stacey M. Warner  
Leader, Extension Operations

