

# River Valley District Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Agent



Lead dynamic agriculture, natural resources, and farm management extension programs in River Valley District.

Apply online using our [application site](#). For more information visit [ksre.ksu.edu/jobs](https://ksre.ksu.edu/jobs).

## POSITION DESCRIPTION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### TITLE:

Extension Agent

### PRIMARY AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY:

Agriculture and Natural Resources programming

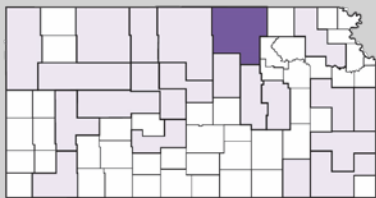
### APPLICATION DEADLINE:

Wednesday, August 24, 2022

Interviews held on September 12, 2022

### LOCATION:

Offices in Belleville, Clay Center, Concordia, and Washington, KS. Primary office in Clay Center.



The River Valley Extension District is comprised of Clay, Cloud, Republic, and Washington counties in north-central Kansas along the Republican River Valley. It is a rural region with a combined population of approximately 27,000 residents in 32 communities. The region has 1,066,693 acres in cropland with more than 101,943 acres being irrigated. Soybeans, corn, wheat, forage crops, and sorghum are the primary crops. The market value of crops and crop products sold total to around \$324 million. This agent will join seven other extension agents and eight support staff in providing programming in agriculture and natural resources; community development; family and consumer sciences; and 4-H youth development.

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.

- Lead the development, implementation, and evaluation of research-based educational programming related to agriculture and natural resources. Programming will include but is not limited to: crop production; farm management and succession; agricultural economics, marketing, and public policy; and natural resources conservation and environmental stewardship.
- Share responsibility for the 4-H youth development programming related to agriculture and natural resources.
- Participate in community vitality programming that helps our communities become better places to live, work, and play. Programming will strengthen social, civic, economic, and technological capacity of communities through leadership development and civic engagement.
- Successful extension programs require agents to:
  - Identify local needs and emerging issues related to K-State Research and Extension's five Grand Challenges (water and natural resources; community vitality; health; developing tomorrow's leaders; and global food systems) by engaging with program development committees and other community organizations and professionals.
  - Design appropriate educational strategies to engage clientele. Strategies might include educational programming in a community-based setting; events and activities that provide experiential learning opportunities; use of innovative technologies; individual educational consultations; and group facilitation.
  - Develop and implement strategies to serve diverse audiences and to ensure K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider of educational programming.
  - Collect and communicate evidence of educational program impact.
  - Cultivate expertise in a subject matter competency area by engaging as a member of the Crop Production Program Focus Team.
- Pursue internal and external funding to support educational programming.
- Serve as a member of the River Valley District team cooperating in the planning and delivery of district-wide programming and related events.

## MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree.
- Academic coursework, professional development, or prior employment related to the position responsibilities.
- Evidence of strong academic and/or professional performance, as documented by college transcripts or documented success in increasingly responsible professional positions.
- Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with individuals, groups, and through mass media.
- Familiarity with various ethnic and socio-economic audiences; an interest in working with people from diverse backgrounds; and a commitment to supporting and enhancing K-State Research and Extension's initiative for diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Ability to work a flexible schedule which will include some nights, weekends, and overnight travel.

## PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Master's Degree.
- Education or professional experience in the areas of farm management, farm succession, insurance, agricultural marketing, and/or agriculture policy.
- Commitment to personal and professional development.
- Competence using electronic communication and computer applications to fulfill programming responsibilities.
- Self-motivation and ability to work with minimal supervision while balancing multiple projects.
- Understanding of educational program design, promotion, implementation, and evaluation.
- Skills in group facilitation.
- Knowledge of adult and youth teaching/learning processes.
- Experience seeking and administering external grant funding.
- Ability to communicate effectively with both English and Spanish-speaking learners.

## OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

- **Applicants must be currently authorized to work in the United States at the time of employment.**
- Access to a personal vehicle and the ability to obtain/maintain a valid driver's license.

### SALARY, BENEFITS, AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

- Salary commensurate with professional experience and available funding as negotiated by the regional extension director, the local extension board, and the applicant. The base starting salary is \$43,000 for a bachelor's degree with no professional experience and \$47,000 for a master's degree with no professional experience.
- Extension agents are Kansas State University educators and have the Board of Regents retirement plan, eligibility for health and life insurance, and earn vacation and sick leave. See a [complete list of benefits](#).
- Reimbursement for travel related to achieving program objectives.
- New agents will be provided with comprehensive Early Career Professional Development training throughout their onboarding period. This series will include virtual and in-person training and networking opportunities.
- Tuition assistance is available to full-time employees and their spouse/dependents.

### LEARN MORE ABOUT WORKING WITH K-STATE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION:

- Visit the [K-State Research and Extension](#) website.
- Contact Jennifer Wilson, Leader of Extension Operations via email ([jrwilson@ksu.edu](mailto:jrwilson@ksu.edu)) or phone ([785-532-5790](tel:785-532-5790)) with questions about this position.

### EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:

Kansas State University is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, age, national origin, disability, or status as a protected veteran.

### BACKGROUND SCREENING STATEMENT:

In connection with your application for employment, Kansas State University will procure a Background Screen on you as part of the process of considering your candidacy as an employee.