

Sedgwick County is a multi-agent county in south central Kansas. Wichita is the county seat of Sedgwick County. Although the county population is near 500,000 and urban programs are strong, Sedgwick County has a great deal of agricultural production. The county consists of 639,603 acres of which 79% is in crop production. Agriculture and agri-business ranks second in economic income, next to the aircraft industry. Livestock production is important, but crop production is the primary contributor to the agricultural economy.

**TITLE:** Extension Agent

**PRIMARY AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY:** Agriculture and Natural Resources

**LOCATION:** Sedgwick County, Wichita, KS

**APPLICATION DATE:** Applications will be accepted through November 15, 2018. Interviews will be December 13, 2018.

## 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. Secondary areas of responsibility include an approximate 20% focus providing leadership for the development, dissemination, and implementation of research-based educational programs related to natural resources. Programs include, but are not limited to: water quality, water conservation, Home Owner Association pond management, farm pond management, and wildlife management. Additional responsibilities also include an approximate 10% focus on livestock, assisting community members with livestock related information.
3. Share responsibility for the 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 and communicate evidence of educational program impact.
  - e) Develop specialized knowledge and skills by engaging as a member of a 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 Sedgwick County team cooperating in the planning and delivery of county-wide programming and related events.



## QUALIFICATIONS

### Required:

- Bachelor's degree.
- Academic coursework and/or professional development and professional employment related to the position responsibilities.
- 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 minimum supervision, balancing multiple projects.
- Experience working with individuals, groups and co-workers to accomplish individual and/or group goals, as evidenced by previous leadership roles.
- 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.

### Other

- Applicants must currently be authorized to work in the United States at the time of employment.

## SALARY, BENEFITS, AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

1. 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 \$41,500 for a BS degree with no professional experience and \$45,500 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/504979/sedgwick-county-agriculture-and-natural-resources-extension-agent>

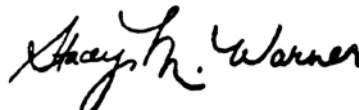
For more information about the position, contact Stacey Warner, Leader, Ext Operations, 785-532-5790, or [swarner@ksu.edu](mailto:swarner@ksu.edu).

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.

10/17/18  
Position #18-30



Stacey M. Warner  
Leader, Extension Operations

