

## Postdoctoral Research Scholar

**Location:** Western Center for Food Safety, UC Davis

### Description:

The Western Center for Food Safety (WCFS) is seeking two postdoctoral scholars to conduct research on high priority public health issues addressing U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-regulated fresh fruits, vegetables, and tree nuts. Postdoctoral scholars will have multiple opportunities to interact with the broader UC Davis community, as well as collaborators from other universities and federal food safety scientists at the FDA and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Research Service (ARS). Working with the WCFS team, postdocs would have an option to lead one or more of the following areas of investigation that include existing datasets and new projects.

- Epidemiological analysis of prevalence and levels of *Salmonella* and Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli* (STEC) from biological soil amendments (BSAs), animal manure, soil, agriculture water, or produce
  - Whole genome sequence data analysis for strain collections associated with this work.
- Quantitative microbial risk assessment or modeling related to irrigation water, distribution systems, harvest methods, postharvest handling, and contamination of produce (both existing data sets and generation of additional data).
- Validation of heat treatments for poultry litter using model systems.
- Evaluation of methods for cleaning and sanitation of large-scale produce harvest equipment.
- Desiccation and thermal tolerance of STEC and *L. monocytogenes*.

### Qualifications:

A Ph.D. or equivalent in food science, microbiology, epidemiology, or relevant field is required. Experience working with foodborne pathogens in a BSL2 laboratory is also a requirement. Knowledge of bioinformatics or quantitative microbial risk assessment is desirable. Applicants should be highly motivated, be able to perform independent research with minimal supervision in an interdisciplinary environment, and fluent in oral and written English. The candidate(s) will be expected to immediately lead a peer-reviewed publication using existing data, and continue to conduct scholarly activities including design and implementation of new projects, preparation of reports, manuscripts, abstracts for conferences, and grant proposals.

This is a full-time position and the postdoctoral research scholar will receive an annual salary commensurate with experience. The position is funded through an FDA Cooperative Agreement for one year with a possibility for renewal based on satisfactory job performance and continuing availability of funds.

Davis, California offers many advantages including an excellent campus community, proximity to the San Francisco Bay Area, and numerous recreational opportunities from beaches to mountains.

**How To Apply:**

- A cover letter with a statement of research interests (1pg).
- Curriculum Vitae (CV) or extended resume with bibliography.
- Names and contact information of three references (including mailing address, phone number and e-mail address).

Send to:

Drs. Linda Harris ([ljharris@ucdavis.edu](mailto:ljharris@ucdavis.edu)) and Michele Jay-Russell ([mjay@ucdavis.edu](mailto:mjay@ucdavis.edu))

The position is available immediately and is open until filled.