Request for Applicants: Graduate Research Assistant (GRA) Position

Advisor: Dr. Judith Turk, Pedologist, School or Natural Resources, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Research Project Summary
Much is unknown about the state of Great Plains soils. This region's thick, dark topsoil often masks the extent of degradation until it has reached an advanced stage. The research objectives are to test the following hypotheses: (1) long-term impacts of irrigation and the erosion-induced carbon sink have altered patterns of carbon storage in soils of the Great Plains, (2) the vector of soil development can be predicted based on land-use, and (3) humans have a measurable effect on soil structure that extends into the subsoil. To achieve these objectives, soil data collected between 1968 and 1994 will be used as a reference point for quantifying soil change, including soil organic carbon, bulk density, calcium carbonate equivalent, particle size distribution, soil color, clay films, and soil structure.

Why Join Us?
In a few words, you will be part of the execution of impactful research, an interdisciplinary team, a supportive and welcoming environment, with opportunities for community engagement and professional growth.

Position Details
The GRA includes tuition and an annual stipend of $27,000-$30,000. Ideally, the GRA will begin in August 2025.

Graduate Program
Further information about graduate studies in the UNL School of Natural Resources can be found at https://snr.unl.edu/gradstudent/.

Qualifications
B.S. in soil science, environmental science, agronomy, or a closely related field. Applicants with coursework and research experience in pedology are preferred. A valid driver's license is required.

How to Apply
Complete the Pedology Lab GRA Applicant Information Form by Apr. 15, 2025.

I am committed to supporting a research lab where all are welcome, to train a workforce for the next generation of scientists to solve complex environmental problems that impact all of society.

University of Nebraska Lincoln
Conservation and Survey Division, School of Natural Resources
3310 Holdrege St., 101 Hardin Hall | Lincoln, NE 68583-0961 | 402-472-3471
csd.unl.edu