

Statewide Soil Health Specialist

Position Announcement

OVERVIEW

The soil health specialist provides assistance to supervisors, co-workers, partnering agencies and landowners in Kansas. This employee is required to deliver technical services in both field environments and office settings while effectively communicating with working associates and the public. The soil health specialist performs these services as a contract employee of a county conservation district in support of Natural Resources Conservation Service programs.

The employee's fundamental mission is to promote soil health cultural and management practices, provide technical assistance in developing and presenting resource materials, and to provide conservation planning through a variety of program support assistance. The soil health specialist will be responsible for development and implementation of technical provisions of soil and water conservation programs with major emphasis on Farm Bill programs. Key goals of the soil health specialist include advanced training to diverse audiences, facilitating soil health assessment, planning for farm and ranch scale soil health management adapted to local conditions, and assistance for on-the-ground implementation of soil health management systems. One position will be hired for placement in Salina, Kansas to perform duties in a state-wide area encompassing 105 counties.

SALARY AND PAY RANGE

The soil health specialist position is started at a beginning annual salary of \$54,727 (Grade 9, Step 1 equivalency level) plus a \$4,800 cash incentive in lieu of health insurance.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

1. Bachelor of Science degree in soil science, agronomy or related disciplines
2. Ability to effectively interpret information in land use mapping, planning and design documents
3. Background and familiarity with agriculture or natural resources regarding conservation practices
4. Knowledge of applicable federal, state, and local programs regarding soil and water conservation

CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT

A prospective employee will be required to pass all applicable background checks requested by the Natural Resources Conservation Service. A prospective employee must also possess and maintain a valid Kansas motor vehicle operator's license within 60 days of the initial hire date.

APPLYING

Qualified candidates should send a resume, transcripts, cover letter and list of three most recent employers who can be contacted for references to Diana.harden@ks.nacdnet.net . Applicants must reference their last name along with the phrase "Soil Health Specialist" and the city location for employment consideration in the subject line of the email, i.e. Smith – Soil Health – Salina. The position will remain open until filled.