

**UNDER GRADUATE/GRADUATE RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY
OFFICE OF GROUND WATER AND DRINKING WATER
OFFICE OF WATER
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Cincinnati, Ohio**

Project # EPA Ground Water 2009-01

An applied research project for an undergraduate or graduate level scientist is available at the Technical Support Center (TSC) of the Office of Water, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in Cincinnati, Ohio. Under the guidance of a mentor, the participant will gain experience and educational benefits from this project performed at TSC.

Background: Protecting drinking water supplies is a part of the mission of EPA. EPA has promulgated several National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWR) designed to ensure safe drinking water supplies. Under these regulations, drinking water supplies are routinely tested using a variety of analytical test methods approved by EPA under the NPDWR. A study will be conducted that will compare recovery of stressed/injured bacteria using analytical test methods approved for the regulatory microbial analysis of drinking water. This research project will entail analysis of water samples using established, prescriptive analytical test methods, as well as routine microbiological laboratory techniques such as: media preparation, bacterial isolation/culture/identification techniques, handling of biohazardous materials, and data collection/analysis skills.

This research project will allow the participant to gain knowledge about current regulations regarding drinking water supplies, as well as an understanding of the current methods approved for sample analysis of drinking water supplies. The participant will be exposed to reviewing, analyzing, and interpreting environmental data regarding the recovery of stressed/injured bacteria in drinking water samples. The results from this study are expected to be summarized in a peer-reviewed manuscript.

Eligibility: Applicants should have received an associate's, bachelor's or master's degree in microbiology or in biology with experience in microbiology. The degree must have been received within four years of the desired starting date. Applicants should have experience using standard microbiological practices and laboratory equipment including: aseptic technique, autoclave, membrane filtration equipment, pH meter, and pipetting skills.

The program is open to all qualified individuals without regard to race, sex, religion, color, age, physical or mental disability, national origin, or status as a Vietnam era or disabled veteran. U.S. citizenship or lawful permanent resident status is preferred (but can also hold an appropriate visa status, however, an H1B visa is not appropriate). **The intern does not become an EPA employee.**

Additional Information: The appointment is for one year and may be renewed yearly for an additional two years upon recommendation of the program coordinator. The starting stipend will range from \$27,000 to \$41,000 per year. The participant will receive a monthly stipend based upon educational level and prior experience. The participant must show proof of health insurance (may be purchased through ORISE).

The participant will be selected based upon academic records, recommendations, research interests, and on compatibility of background and interests with research programs and projects conducted in the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, Technical Support Center. The deadline for applying for this project is May 1, 2009. Applications and the supporting materials (resume, transcripts, and two professional references) are accepted by fax, e-mail, and mail. ***This project also requires a written description of your interest (no more than two pages).***

The EPA contact person for this project is Mike Brinkmiller. He can be contacted at brinkmiller.michael@epa.gov or at (513)569-7102.

The Internship Program for EPA Water is administered by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education. *Please reference Project #EPA Ground Water 2009-01 when calling or writing for information.* For additional information and application material contact: Internship Program – EPA Water, Attn: Betty Bowling – MS 36, Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, P.O. Box 117, Oak Ridge Tennessee 37831. Phone: (865)576-8503 Fax: (865) 241-5219 Email: betty.bowling@ornl.gov

An application can be found at <http://www.ornl.gov/orise/edu//EPA/app-gugrgpd.pdf>.