

Postdoctoral Research Associate – Social and Behavioral Community Food Systems Research

Time Limited: 12 months (January 2024-December 2024), with possibility for extension
Department: Family, Youth and Community Sciences
Institution: University of Florida
Location: Gainesville, FL

The Department of [Family, Youth, and Community Sciences](#) (FYCS) at the University of Florida invites applications for a Postdoctoral Research Associate to collaborate on community food systems research projects as a part of the [Community Food Systems Lab](#).

Topics of current projects include:

- Citizen science research to identify the drivers of household food waste.
- Local food, health and wellness education programs and interventions.
- Values-based institutional food procurement programs.
- Social and ethical considerations related to cellular (lab grown) meat.

Activities will include conducting reviews of literature, developing surveys, conducting interviews, analyzing quantitative and qualitative data, writing reports and manuscripts, and supporting other research activities. The postdoctoral associate will also be responsible for supporting the development of grant proposals related to [One Health](#).

Applicants must have a demonstrated interest in food and agriculture policy, food systems, or public health with a background in a relevant academic discipline, such as sociology; public health; anthropology; economics; family, youth and community science; or related fields.

Key Responsibilities:

1. Organization, management, and implementation of a citizen science research project related to food waste.
2. Collaborating with interdisciplinary teams to conduct research related to the social, behavioral, and ethical implementation of adoption of new technologies in food and agriculture.
3. Publishing research findings in high-quality academic journals and presenting results at national and international conferences.
4. Mentoring graduate students and contributing to grant proposal writing.
5. Contribution to project management and organizing the project team.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Doctoral degree in a relevant field, such as sociology; public health; anthropology; economics, political science; family, youth and community science; or related fields.

Preferred Qualifications:

- A general knowledge of food systems with experience in research or implementation related to food waste, citizen science, community-based participatory research, or program evaluation.
- Experience conducting interviews or focus groups (strongly preferred).
- Experience with quantitative data analysis using SPSS or related statistical software (strongly preferred).
- Must possess critical thinking skills, analytical and problem-solving skills, including researching and analyzing complex data to develop accurate reports.
- Working knowledge of program evaluation methodology (strongly preferred).
- Must have excellent time management skills and the ability to prioritize tasks to meet deadlines.
- The successful candidate must be able to integrate quickly and effectively into a busy team.
- Excellent attendance history in prior positions; excellent oral and written communication skills, including a courteous and helpful manner in all communications; completeness, accuracy, and timeliness in all work, scheduling, and event management experience; proficiency with MS office software, social media tools and other web computer applications are keys to success.
- Candidates must have the ability to interact positively and effectively with a wide variety of business and organizational partners.
- Experience working in a college or university setting a plus.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships.
- Must be self-motivated and capable of working independently.

This is a full-time, grant-funded, 12-month position. Salary is competitive and includes a full benefits package.

Application Procedure: Interested applicants should submit: (1) a curriculum vitae, (2) a letter of interest, including a brief description of how this position relates to their career plans, (3) the names and contact information of three references with whom the candidate has worked closely or was supervised by, and (4) an unofficial transcript from the candidate's doctoral institution to cgcampbell@ufl.edu.

Application Deadline: Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.

The University of Florida is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We are dedicated to building a culturally diverse and inclusive faculty committed to teaching and working in a multicultural environment and strongly encourage applications from all backgrounds and experiences.

Final candidate will be required to provide official transcript to the hiring department upon hire. A transcript will not be considered “official” if a designation of “Issued to Student” is visible. Degrees earned from an education institution outside of the United States are required to be evaluated by a professional credentialing service provider approved by National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES), which can be found at <http://www.naces.org/>.

For further inquiries about the position, please contact Dr. Campbell (cgcampbell@ufl.edu).

The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences is committed to creating an environment of inclusive excellence that affirms diversity across a variety of dimensions, including ability, class, ethnicity/race, gender identity and expression. Inclusive excellence is the active process of including and respecting everyone as we strive for excellence and equitable outcomes in all we do at the University of Florida. We particularly welcome applicants who can contribute to such an environment through their scholarship, teaching, mentoring, and professional service. We strongly encourage historically underrepresented groups to apply.

Hiring is contingent upon eligibility to work in the US. The University of Florida is a public institution and subject to all requirements under Florida Sunshine and Public Record laws.

If an accommodation due to a disability is needed to apply for this position, please call 352-392-2477 or the Florida Relay System at 800-955-8771 (TDD) or visit Accessibility at UF .