

Agricultural Specialist (open to all)

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Company: US Embassy Brussels

Location: Brussels

Category: other-general

Overview

Hiring Path: • Open to the public

Who May Apply/Clarification From the Agency: For USEFM - FP is 04. Actual FP salary determined by Washington D.C.

All Interested Applicants / All Sources

!!! Post policy update: Inbound USEFM applicants DO NOT have to wait until they are within 90 days of arriving at post to apply. !!!

If the candidate meets all of the onboarding criteria they could start working as of immediately. Security Clearance Required: Public Trust - Background Investigation
Appointment Type Permanent Appointment Type Details: Indefinite subject to successful completion of initial one-year contract. Marketing Statement:

We encourage you to read and understand the before you apply.

Summary:

The work schedule for this position is Full Time (38 hours per week)

Start date: Candidate must be able to begin working within a reasonable period of time (15 weeks) of receipt of agency authorization and/or clearances/certifications or their candidacy may end.

If the candidate meets all of the onboarding criteria they could start working as of immediately.

Supervisory Position: No Relocation Expenses Reimbursed: No

Duties

The employee is relied upon as an expert in animal and/or plant health issues ranging in complexity from a single country such as Belgium and to regional responsibility that encompass many different countries within the Europe Region. These issues require a detailed understanding of the export and import regulations between countries and the U.S. with a focus on sanitary and phytosanitary issues. Factors that reflect complexity include communications with animal and plant health authorities in countries within the area of responsibility, the number of host countries, variety of agricultural commodities, variations in geographic areas in terms of climate and terrain and its impact on commodity availability, economic and political considerations between host countries and the U.S., and the expansion of U.S. trade with foreign nations. The employee provides expert consultation in resolving technical issues that may be blocking exports from the U.S. or releasing commodities from quarantine in a foreign country. Actively participates in prioritizing agency goals and activities in conjunction with the Foreign Service Officer (FSO).

The employee is the technical specialist in Brussels, Belgium for the APHIS portfolios of Safeguarding (protecting U.S. Agriculture), Trade Support, and Capacity Building. In this role, they will advise the Area Director and Regional Manager on key tasks related to conceptualization, prioritization, strategy, financial planning, negotiating, assisting with, and managing the interest and participation of Countries and other organizations, agreement writing, impact assessment, and all follow-up activities where regional issues of importance to APHIS occur. This position collaborates with various LESs and FSOs within the countries of the European Union, United Kingdom, EFTA countries, and Israel by gathering intelligence on the local dynamics to communicate to HQ subject matter experts.

Qualifications and Evaluations

Requirements:

EXPERIENCE: A minimum of 6 years of progressively responsible experience in designing, developing, directing, or evaluating agricultural health programs, or in dealing with scientific

matters of an equivalent nature.

JOB KNOWLEDGE: The European Union and region at large are countries where forward movement on any issue can be hindered by the history of issues, industries, institutions, and personalities. For this reason, the employee must master the relevant history, current dynamics of the region, and be able to recognize trends and forecast possible future scenarios.

Education Requirements:

Veterinary degree or a master's degree in agriculture, biology, entomology, veterinary science, plant pathology, horticulture, zootechnics, or related.

Evaluations:

LANGUAGE: Fluency in English. Working knowledge in one other European language. This may be tested.

SKILLS AND ABILITIES: The employee must possess a detailed knowledge of the animal and plant health laws, regulations, and policies of host country counterparts. Education, training, and experience in the principles of project management, budgeting and financial management and the ability to further develop and apply those principles is required.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (EEO)The U.S. Mission provides equal opportunity and fair and equitable treatment in employment to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status, or sexual orientation.

Qualifications:

All applicants under consideration will be required to pass medical and security certifications. All candidates must be able to obtain and hold a Sensitive But Unclassified (SBU) certification.

Benefits and Other Info

Benefits: Agency Benefits:

Locally Employed Staff, including Members of Household (MOHs), and Third-Country Nationals (TCNs), working at the U.S. Mission in Brussels may receive a compensation package that may include extra-legal benefits: life insurance, hospitalization insurance

(family included), meal tickets, transportation reimbursements, seniority leave, special holidays, training, etc.

For EFM's, benefits should be discussed with the Human Resources Office.

The pay plan is assigned at the time of the conditional offer letter by the HR Office.

Other Information:

HIRING PREFERENCE SELECTION PROCESS: Applicants in the following hiring preference categories are extended a hiring preference in the order listed below.

Therefore, it is essential that these applicants accurately describe their status on the application. Failure to do so may result in a determination that the applicant is not eligible for a hiring preference.

HIRING PREFERENCE ORDER:

AEFM / USEFM who is a preference-eligible U.S. Veteran*

AEFM / USEFM

FS on LWOP and CS with reemployment rights **

* **IMPORTANT:** Applicants who claim status as a preference-eligible U.S. Veteran must submit a copy of their most recent DD-214 ("Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty"), equivalent documentation, or certification. A "certification" is any written document from the armed forces that certifies the service member is expected to be discharged or released from active duty service in the armed forces under honorable conditions within 120 days after the certification is submitted by the applicant. The certification letter should be on letterhead of the appropriate military branch of the service and contain (1) the military service dates including the expected discharge or release date; and (2) the character of service. Acceptable

documentation must be submitted in order for the preference to be given.

** This level of preference applies to all Foreign Service employees on LWOP and CS with re-employment rights back to their agency or bureau.

For more information (i.e., what is an EFM, USEFM, AEFM, MOH, etc.?) and for additional employment considerations, please visit the following .

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Cross References and Citations:

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