

Research Assistant I

Position Details

Position Information

Position Title	Research Assistant I
Department/Unit	Animal Science and Aquaculture
Location	Truro
Posting Number	S116-20
Employee Group	NSGEU Local 77
Position Type	Term
Duration of Contract (if applicable)	Seven (7) months
Employment Type	Full Time
Full-time Equivalency (FTE)	1.0
Salary	\$20.60 - \$22.64 per hour (\$37,490 - \$41,198 per annum, 35 hours per week)
Classification	RE01

Provisional Statement

About Dalhousie University

Dalhousie University is Atlantic Canada's leading research-intensive university and a driver of the region's intellectual, social and economic development. Located in the heart of Halifax, Nova Scotia, with an Agricultural Campus in Truro/Bible Hill, Dalhousie is a truly national and international university, with more than half of our 19,000 students coming from outside of the province. Our 6,000 faculty and staff foster a vibrant, purpose-driven community, that celebrated 200 years of academic excellence in 2018.

Job Summary

The Faculty of Agriculture, Dalhousie University is a small research-intensive campus located in Truro, NS. Offering technical, undergraduate and graduate programs in agriculture, environment and related life and social science disciplines, the Faculty of Agriculture educates future leaders and generates knowledge and innovative solutions for healthy, sustainable societies. Reporting to the Principal Investigator, the Research Assistant will contribute to the study of specific physical and biological characteristics of the Shubenacadie River estuary through field and lab work.

Key Responsibilities

- Collect samples from a motorboat using a plankton net (primarily May to October). This includes driving self and students to study sites; loading the boat with sampling equipment; and ensuring boat and operators are safe and fully operational, and sampling follows strict protocols.
- Complete beach-seine net sampling at various sites (July to October), following a strict protocol requiring precise timing with the tide to wade chest high into estuary, haul the net approximately 50 meters then quickly count and identify the catch.
- Complete data entry and basic analysis, as well as draft and help prepare reports.
- Ensure scientific equipment is fully functional and properly calibrated, including necessary cleaning and maintenance of equipment. As well, deploy and service data

loggers, downloading data; and perform minor boat motor repairs as required, including on the water.

- In the lab, count and identify zooplankton and fish samples, and assist in the supervision of undergraduate students completing same. Analyze beach seine net samples.
- Conduct brine toxicology tests on aquatic organisms, as required.

Note

Qualifications

Undergraduate degree in Aquaculture or Marine Biology with approximately one to two years relevant experience (or equivalent combination of training and experience). Must have theoretical and practical experience in aquatic science, particularly in aquatic ecology and toxicology testing. Demonstrated proficiency in MS Office (Word, Excel) and statistical packages is required along with experience compiling datasets and conducting basic statistical analysis. Must have a valid Nova Scotia Class 5 drivers license and demonstrated mechanical skills to execute minor motor repairs. The ideal candidate will have a current Pleasure Craft Operator Card and have passed the Canadian Coast Guard Accredited test. Previous experience supervising students is an asset. Must have demonstrated attention to detail and commitment to safety. The successful applicant must have the ability to work in cold conditions and inclement weather; in a muddy estuarine river, 1 – 5 meters in depth, pulling a 12 meter seine net; manually lift equipment up to approximately 20 kg; and work with formalin and occasionally other potentially harmful chemicals.

Job Competencies

Additional Information

Dalhousie University supports a healthy and balanced lifestyle. Our total compensation package includes a defined benefit pension plan, health and dental plans, an employee and family assistance program and a tuition assistance program.

Application Consideration

Bargaining unit employees for NSGEU local 77 are given first consideration and will be notified regarding the status of their application. All other applicants will be considered when there is no qualified internal candidate.

We thank all applicants for their interest, however, only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

Diversity Statement

Dalhousie University is committed to fostering a collegial culture grounded in diversity and inclusiveness. The university encourages applications from Indigenous persons, persons with a disability, racially visible persons, women, persons of a minority sexual orientation and/or gender identity, and all candidates who would contribute to the diversity of our community. For more information, please visit www.dal.ca/hiringfordiversity.

Posting Detail Information

Number of Vacancies

One

Open Date

08/19/2020

Close Date

08/26/2020

Open Until Filled

No

Special Instructions to Applicant

Quick Link for Direct Access to Posting

<http://dal.peopleadmin.ca/postings/4171>

Supplemental Questions

Required fields are indicated with an asterisk (*).

Documents Needed to Apply

Required Documents

1. Résumé / Curriculum Vitae (CV)

Optional Documents

1. Cover Letter