



Research Support Specialist

Position Announcement

The National Strategic Research Institute (NSRI) at the University of Nebraska is seeking applications for Research Support Specialist to take scientific principles and apply them to field forward applications. Research Support Specialist will be responsible for providing support to research programs over a capability area centered on CBRN defeat technologies for DoD and USG sponsors. Responsibilities will include working with a multidisciplinary team that develops and tests novel materials, methods, and systems for chemical and biological defense applications, that will be conducted in both field and laboratory settings. The Research Support Specialist position will report to a Senior Scientist in the Special Projects Directorate. Primary duty location will be Melbourne, Florida, with a secondary location located on board Cape Canaveral Space Force Station. Based on the needs of the project other temporary duty stations may include the NSRI Offices in Nebraska, Maryland and Virginia and also University of Nebraska campuses in Lincoln, Omaha and Kearney.

National Strategic Research Institute Profile:

NSRI is a non-profit IRS 501c(3) supporting organization of the University of Nebraska, established in 2012 to operate one of only 14 Department of Defense (DOD) University Affiliated Research Centers (UARC)s in the nation. NSRI is engaged in a long-term, strategic partnership with our DOD sponsor, United States Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM). NSRI provides essential research, development and support for USSTRATCOM, other DOD components and federal agencies focused on established research core competencies, including Nuclear Detection and Forensics, Detection of Chemical and Biological Weapons, Active and Passive Defense against Weapons of Mass Destruction, Consequence Management, and Mission Related Research. NSRI receives funding from project sponsors through contracts generated from our sole-source, Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity contract with USSTRATCOM, as well as other direct contract vehicles and grants.

Website: <https://nsri.nebraska.edu>

Applicants should note:

This is a full-time 1.0 FTE position that will be based out of our Space Coast Melbourne, Florida office. You will be expected to work mainly in a laboratory/office environment, although there are requirements to work out of our alternate duty location onboard Cape Canaveral Space Force Station 1 to 2 days per week. Periodic travel will be required to University of Nebraska System Campuses, NSRI Field Offices in Nebraska, Maryland and Virginia and other locations based on project needs.

Compensation: This is a technical position that is considered salaried/exempt. Salary will be commensurate with Experience and Contributing Attributes, with \$45,000-\$90,000 salary range. **Benefits:** NSRI employees receive University of Nebraska-like benefits, per underlying service agreements, to include paid vacation and sick leave; insurance options; and a retirement program. NSRI also currently observes twelve (12) paid holidays each year.



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Applicants accepting a job offer must pass a background check and a drug test prior to starting in the position.

Job Responsibilities: Responsibilities listed below is not an exclusive statement of duties & responsibilities. Employees may be required to perform other job-related activities as requested.

Research Support Specialist key responsibilities include, but are not limited to, accomplishing the following activities:

- Conduct both field and laboratory research following test plans and protocols for CBRN defeat research efforts
- Carry out quality control and assurance protocols for CBRN defeat research efforts
- Assist in the development of CBRN defeat research, development, and testing capabilities at both NSRI and partner facilities to aid in the building of long-term strategic resources as well as the facilitation of immediate project needs
- Maintain proper laboratory documentation
- Maintain laboratory infrastructure and consumable inventories
- Insure Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and protocols are maintained and applied
- Participate as a member of a team to accomplish all stated and implied project related tasks
- Other duties and responsibilities as assigned

Required Qualifications:

- Bachelors of Science in Biology, Biotechnology, Biomedical Engineering, Microbiology, BioChemistry, Chemistry or a related field
- Knowledge of laboratory operations, including environmental health and safety procedures
- 2+ years' experience in following protocols and conducting experiments in a laboratory environment
- 2+ years' experience in working as a part of a team in a biological and/or chemical laboratory environment
- Demonstrated proficiency in oral, and written communication skills, with attention to detail

An equivalent combination of education and experience may be considered.

Preferred Experience:

- 5+ years' experience in following protocols and conducting experiments in a laboratory environment



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- 5+ years' experience in working as a part of a team in a biological and chemical laboratory environment
- Experience in working closely with Engineers and Computer Scientists to articulate desired outcomes on a biological/chemical level.
- Strong interpersonal, oral, and written communication skills
- Masters of Science Degree in Biology, Biotechnology, Biomedical Engineering, Microbiology, BioChemistry, Chemistry or a related field.

Security-Related Information:

NSRI is a DoD-designated UARC that performs sensitive and sometimes classified research for DoD and other federal government entities. Because of this relationship with the Federal Government and access to sensitive information and systems, all NSRI employees must be U.S. Citizens. NSRI employees are also subject to random drug screening during their employment.

Ideal candidates will exhibit the following attributes and personality traits:

- Mission first attitude, wiliness to put all of your efforts in support of another agency, team, or person. The mission is put ahead of all other personal obligations.
- Self-motivated, autonomous self-starter with enthusiasm to bring forward new ideas and execute at a high level.
- Extreme attention to detail.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, particularly for communicating complex biological/chemical methods to Computer Scientist and Engineers.
- Collaborative and team-oriented with the ability to work independently, exercise sound judgment to seek input from others when necessary.
- Advanced organizational skills and the ability to prioritize multiple and complex tasks and work effectively in a fast-paced environment, with short deadlines and frequent interruptions.
- Advanced “out of the box thinking” in an approach to solving Sponsor’s needs and requirements.

How to Apply:

Application review will be continuous until position is filled.

Applications processed through the on-line job posting at <https://careers.nebraska.edu>.

Follow instructions to complete the Applicant Profile and supplemental questions. Along with your application, attach a cover letter, resume, and the names, relationship to you and contact information for at least three professional references.

Direct questions to: Mr. David Roberts, NSRI Deputy Director of Technical Collections,
drobotts@nsri.nebraskaresearch.gov



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Questions about the on-line application process should be directed to (402) 554-8304 or hr@nsri.nebraskaresearch.gov.

As an EO/AA employer, qualified applicants are considered for employment without regard to race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, marital status, and/or political affiliation.