

MS or PhD Research Assistantship- Amphibian Disease

The Center for Wildlife Health located in the Institute of Agriculture at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville (UTK) is seeking a highly-motivated individual to pursue a MS or PhD with a concentration in Wildlife Health, focusing on the recently discovered chytrid fungus, *Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans* (*Bsal*). The recruited student will work with a team of professionals, research associates and students spanning the fields of wildlife disease ecology, microbiology, immunology, veterinary medicine, and quantitative sciences to understand the threat of this pathogen to North American biodiversity. The student's thesis or dissertation research will be decided in consultation with the lead PIs (Drs. Matthew Gray and Debra Miller), with part of the focus on *Bsal* transmission pathways and disease intervention strategies. The student will be supported by the U.S. National Science Foundation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, and the UT Institute of Agriculture. The graduate assistantship will include a 12-month stipend, health insurance, and UTK tuition waiver. More information on the UTIA *Bsal* Project is available at: https://ag.tennessee.edu/fwf/bsalproject/.

Qualifications

Bachelor's degree in biological sciences or a related field. Minimum GPA of 3.0 and composite GRE score (quantitative and verbal) of 302. Exceptional candidates will have prior research experience including executing *in vivo* and *in vitro* controlled experiments with pathogens, amphibian captive husbandry and necropsy, pathogen culture and diagnostic techniques, and biosecurity SOPs.

Applying

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter summarizing experience and professional interests, a CV with at least three references, and unofficial transcripts and GRE scores (submitted as one PDF file) to Dr. Matthew Gray, mgray11@utk.edu. Review of applications will begin on **22 February 2019**, and continue until a suitable candidate is identified. Start date can be summer or fall semester 2019.



JOIN THE TEAM!

The Center for Wildlife Health at the University of Tennessee provides a multidisciplinary environment for the study of health issues arising from the interaction of wildlife, livestock, humans and the environment.