

Undergraduate Research Assistant in Plant Pathology

Job description

Undergraduate research assistant positions are available in the lab of Dr. Yuan Zeng, Southern Piedmont AREC (**Blackstone, Virginia**), College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, in Summer 2025 to assist commodity board-funded research, which focuses on the development of a spatiotemporal model of fungal pathogens in field crops, including corn and tobacco.

The selected candidates may also assist in plant disease diagnosis, pathobiome, and/or genomic research.

Job responsibilities will vary but can include the following:

- Spore sampler and weather station assembling and deployment in field
- Soil, plant, and spore sampling in field and sample processing
- Biochemistry and molecular biology work such as DNA extraction, PCR, library preparation, nanopore sequencing, etc.
- Data collection, entry, and analysis
- Communicating the results of experiments to peers, supervisors, and the scientific community
- General cleaning, washing dishes, and preparing supplies for laboratory or fieldwork

Job title

- Undergraduate Research Assistant

Work-Study program

- No

Onsite location

- Blackstone, Virginia, United States

Schedule

- Full time

Employment duration

- Temporary or seasonal

Estimated start-to-end date

- 5/19/2025 – 8/19/2025

Expected pay

- 15–20 USD per hour

Work authorization

- This job requires US work authorization

- This job is open to candidates with Curricular Practical Training (CPT)
- This job is open to candidates with Optional Practical Training (OPT)

Skills

- Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Plant Pathology, Plant science

Required application documents

- Cover Letter, Resume
- Submit here: <https://vt.joinhandshake.com/emp/jobs/9696726/details>