

Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service

Job Title: Plant Protection and Quarantine Officer (Plant Health Safeguarding Specialist)

Department: Department Of Agriculture

Agency: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Job Announcement Number: 24PQ-2014-0047

SALARY RANGE: \$31,628.00 to \$75,376.00 / Per Year

OPEN PERIOD: Friday, February 14, 2014 to Friday, February 28, 2014

SERIES & GRADE: GS-0401-05/11

POSITION INFORMATION: Full Time - Term not to exceed 13 months; May be extended up to 4 years.

PROMOTION POTENTIAL: 11

DUTY LOCATIONS: 1 vacancy - Idaho Falls, ID [View Map](#)

WHO MAY APPLY: This announcement is open to all United States citizens.

SECURITY CLEARANCE: Public Trust - Background Investigation

SUPERVISORY STATUS: No

For more information or to apply, go to: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/361567000>

JOB SUMMARY:

This is a term appointment not to exceed 13 months. (Appointment may be extended up to 4 years without re-announcing.)

APHIS is an emergency response agency. This means that all Agency employees may be asked or assigned to participate in rotating temporary duty assignments to support emergency programs at some time during their careers with APHIS. For details click: [APHIS Emergency Response](#)

TRAVEL REQUIRED

- Occasional Travel
- Travel may be required.

KEY REQUIREMENTS

- You must be a US Citizen or US National.
- Males born after 12/31/59 must be registered with the Selective Service.
- Subject to satisfactory completion of one year probationary period.
- Valid state driver's license is required at the time of application.

DUTIES:

The duties described are for the full-performance level. At developmental grade levels, assignments will be of more limited scope, performed with less independence and limited complexity.

The duties may include, but are not limited to:

- Manages multiple program areas and/or a multi-faceted program (or areas for which a program will be developed), such as post-entry quarantine, gypsy moth, biological control, grasshopper/Mormon cricket, biotechnology, noxious weeds, boll weevil, or other pests.
- Provides recommendations to the supervisor and staff on design and development of guidelines, operational standards, and procedures.
- Drafts proposals or work plans and financial plans to be used for survey, sampling, control, trace back, regulatory, methods development and improvement, and/or eradication phases of programs or other projects.
- Serves as accredited certifying official regarding export certification, which includes interpreting foreign quarantine regulations to facilitate international trade, issuing Federal Phytosanitary Certificates, and ensuring proper maintenance of the fee collection process.
- Provides specialized inspection, regulation, and clearance of high risk propagative plant material and plant products and pest diagnostic identification services at plant inspection stations and/or other facilities.
- Plans, conducts, and/or supervises various treatments and remedial measures, such as disinfection, sterilization, fumigation, cold treatment, hot water treatment, and irradiation of regulated articles for plant and animal pests and diseases.
- Has a broad range of responsibilities under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), including reviewing permits, seizing shipments without proper documents, safeguarding seized or forfeited property, and maintaining accurate files on CITES transactions.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:

BASIC REQUIREMENT

A. Degree: biological sciences, agriculture, or a closely related discipline appropriate to the position. Transcripts required. **Selective Factor:** The qualifying degree must have included at least 20 semester hours in course work such as agronomy, cell biology, botany, entomology, forestry, horticulture, mycology, nematology, plant pathology, soil science, or other closely related courses. Applicants who do not possess or fail to submit documentation of completion of this requirement will be found not qualified. **OR**

B. Combination of education and experience: successful completion of courses equivalent to a major in biological science, agriculture, or a closely related field, including at least 20 semester hours of course work as described above under "selective factor" plus appropriate experience or additional education.

Selective Factor: The qualifying degree must have included at least 24 semester hours in course work, such as agronomy, cell biology, botany, entomology, forestry, horticulture, mycology, nematology, plant pathology, soil science, or other closely related courses. Applicants who do not possess or fail to submit documentation of completion of this requirement will be found not qualified.

OR

Combination of Education and Experience: Courses equivalent to a major, as shown in "Selective Factor" above, plus appropriate experience or additional education. Experience may have been obtained in the private or public (local, county, state, Federal) sectors.

APPLICANTS WHO MEET THE BASIC REQUIREMENTS QUALIFY AT THE GS-5 GRADE LEVEL. IN ADDITION TO MEETING THE BASIC REQUIREMENTS LISTED ABOVE:

Applicants can qualify by meeting the **EDUCATION** requirements specified below **and/or** the **SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE** requirements.

EDUCATION

SUBSTITUTION OF EDUCATION FOR EXPERIENCE AT THE GS-7 LEVEL: Successful completion of 1 year of graduate level education from an accredited college or university in biological sciences, agriculture, or a closely related field. Transcripts required if qualifying based on this provision. **OR**

Superior Academic Achievement: To qualify based on superior academic achievement, you must have completed the requirements for a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution AND must meet certain GPA requirements. **OR**

SUBSTITUTION OF EDUCATION FOR EXPERIENCE AT THE GS-9 LEVEL: Successful completion of 2 years of progressively higher level graduate education leading to a Master's or equivalent graduate degree from an accredited college or university in biological sciences, agriculture, or closely related field. Transcripts required if qualifying based on this provision. **OR**

SUBSTITUTION OF EDUCATION FOR EXPERIENCE AT THE GS-11 LEVEL: Successful completion of 3 years of progressively higher level graduate education leading to a Ph.D. degree or Ph.D. or equivalent doctoral degree from an accredited college or university in biological sciences, agriculture, or closely related field.

TRANSCRIPTS are required if:

- This position requires specific coursework or a degree in a specific field to be basically qualified.
- You are qualifying for the position based on education.
- You are qualifying for this position based on a combination of experience and education.
- You are qualifying for this position based on Superior Academic Achievement.

This education must have been successfully completed and obtained from an accredited school, college, or university.

AGENCY CONTACT INFO:

DO NOT EMAIL DOCUMENTS

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Agency Information:

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