



# Graduate Research Assistantship Position Announcement

The Department of Forestry in the College of Forest Resources and the Forest and Wildlife Research Center at Mississippi State University are seeking applicants for a funded M.S. assistantship. The successful candidate will work under the direction of Dr. Eric McConnell in the area of forest business, which includes topics related to timberland investment, timber procurement, forest operations, forest real estate management, and forest taxation.

The anticipated research will seek to better understand timber markets in the southern United States, with a focus on Mississippi. A specific study topic will be identified that aligns with the program's mission as well as the successful candidate's strengths and professional goals. The candidate will be expected to communicate his/her research results in writing through peer-reviewed journals, conference proceedings, and/or Extension fact sheets and bulletins. Presentations at regional, national, and international meetings will also be required. Thus, applicants must be independent and passionate about furthering their education in forestry and forest business.

The assistantship is available beginning in August 2021 for the fall semester. The 2- year position includes a stipend (\$15,000 annually), tuition waiver, and insurance.

## **Required qualifications:**

- A bachelor's degree in forestry, natural resources, forest and/or bioproducts, or a related field, such as agricultural economics or agricultural engineering
- Ability to meet all admissions requirements to the Department of Forestry M.S. program
- Demonstrated excellence in English (written and oral) communication skills
- Valid driver's license

## **Preferred qualifications:**

- A background or strong interest in seeking solutions to economic, management, and policy issues affecting natural resources
- Interest or experience in using spreadsheet, statistical, growth and yield, or other similar programs to solve research problems
- Experience conducting undergraduate research

Information about the Department of Forestry at Mississippi State University as well as admissions criteria can be found at <https://www.cfr.msstate.edu/forestry/index.asp> and <http://www.grad.msstate.edu/>.

Interested candidates should contact Dr. Eric McConnell by emailing a short letter of interest, your resume, and unofficial undergraduate transcripts. Successful applicants will be required to apply to the Graduate School at Mississippi State University. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. The application deadline for 2021 fall enrollment is May 1 (international) or August 1 (domestic).

MSU is an equal opportunity employer, and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, ethnicity, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), national origin, disability status, age, sexual orientation, genetic information, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law. We always welcome nominations and applications from women, members of any minority group, and others who share our passion for building a diverse community that reflects the diversity in our student population.

## **Contact Information:**

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