PROGRAM MANAGER

AGRICULTURE-CLIMATE PARTNERSHIP

JOB DESCRIPTION

The Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR) and the U.S. Farmers & Ranchers Alliance (USFRA) seek a Program Manager with expertise in climate change as it relates to agriculture and in managing large, complex programs.

FFAR, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established by bipartisan Congressional support in the 2014 Farm Bill and refunded in the 2018 Farm Bill, builds public-private partnerships to support pioneering and actionable science addressing today’s food and agriculture challenges. USFRA was initially a 501(c)(6) trade group that has recently created a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization; this new entity brings NGOs, CPGs, and agribusiness together with farmers to co-create and activate change for good in agriculture. Together, FFAR and USFRA are leveraging public and private resources to increase the scientific and technological research, innovation and partnerships critical to enhancing sustainable production of nutritious food for a growing global population; ensure that advanced science is implemented on the ground; and work towards the goal of implementing climate-smart agriculture practices on every acre of land.

FFAR and USFRA propose an Agriculture-Climate Partnership - our living solution to climate change - by mobilizing millions of farmers, thousands of scientists, hundreds of partner organizations and the financial resources to apply innovations at scales and rates previously unimagined. This effort requires programs that are developed in partnership with industry, government, academia, non-profits and the farming community. The Program Manager is responsible for overseeing partnership programs to create impactful directly related to the intersection of climate change and agriculture.

The Program Manager develops and manages programs for the Agriculture-Climate Partnership between FFAR and USFRA staff and multi-stakeholder teams. The Program Manager is responsible for day-to-day activities including working to develop programs and bringing together current knowledge and data that fill gaps and/or advance science and that can be implemented into a toolbox of climate change solutions for farmers. As such, the Program Manager must be able to network and create relationships with organizations and individuals who work in these areas and/or could become funding partners and adept at working directly with the farming community to mobilize on-farm work.

The Program Manager also oversees the evaluation of applications and proposals; designs, promotes and monitors the progress of funded projects; and manages specific initiatives, including project meetings, logistics, timelines, budgets and associated grants and contracts. This position serves as the liaison between FFAR and USFRA and develops processes and methods to support a program that is central to the efforts of climate mitigation in agriculture.
This is a science administration and management position that requires research knowledge; excellent interpersonal and writing skills; a high level of organization, diplomacy and focus; ability to work under tight deadlines; and familiarity with the agriculture research environment.

KEY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES (not exhaustive)

• Developing and facilitating multi-disciplinary partnerships to support innovative science
• Developing networks to implement programs developed through this Agriculture-Climate Partnership
• Serving as liaison between FFAR, USFRA and other organizations
• Organizing the evaluation of projects
• Managing project grants and/or contracts
• Coordinating and managing cross-functional project team meetings
• Developing and managing project grants and/or contracts
• Coordinating and managing cross-functional project team meetings
• Managing priority setting processes and relationships among diverse partners from different sectors (farmer groups, government, nonprofits, academia, and/or private industry)
• Serve as the public face for this Agriculture-Climate Partnership

REQUIRED COMPETENCIES AND SKILLS

• Project Management:
  o Oversees daily management of standard programs, projects, and events, with demonstrated project management skills and proficiency with project management tools and software
  o Ability to work and successfully coordinate and complete tasks in a matrixed management environment

• Content Development:
  o Generates engaging and comprehensive content

• Relationship Building:
  o Develops relationships within and outside of department and with external constituents

• Engagement:
  o Knowledge and experience in multi-stakeholder engagement
  o Demonstrated ability to develop and manage external relationships that bring direct and indirect value to projects

• Communication:
  o Listens actively; speaks and writes clearly and concisely
  o Demonstrates ability to act as a spokesperson and for FFAR and USFRA efforts in this Agriculture-Climate Partnership
  o Proficient in engaging with internal teams to address communications and legislative needs as appropriate

• Mentorship:
  o Collaborates with and mentors others by taking initiative on team projects

• Program Development:
Capable of developing and implementing program initiatives that align with organization’s mission with leadership guidance
- Keen knowledge of the agriculture community
- Demonstrates understanding of research and scientific issues

**Judgement:**
- Keeps leadership informed of all independent initiatives to identify potential issues and suggests possible solutions

**Social Media:**
- Proficient using social media platforms and identifies opportunities to promote work on these networks.

**EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:**
- Bachelor's or master’s degree required; PhD preferred, but not required
- 5 or more years of experience directly relevant to the position as described

**TO APPLY**
Please send a resume and cover letter indicating your salary expectations to cdaniels@foundationfar.org. Please specify “Program Manager” in the subject line of your message.

FFAR is an equal opportunity employer. Applicants are considered for positions without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, personal appearance, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, familial status, family responsibilities, matriculation, political affiliation, genetic information, disability, source of income, status as a victim of an intrafamily offense, and place of residence or business, or any other category protected by applicable federal, state or local laws. Applications are encouraged from individuals who may fall into any such groups, as well as from veterans and uniformed service members.

U.S. Farmers & Ranchers Alliance is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, retaliation, parental status, military service, or any other non-merit factor.

*Job Type: Full-time*