



Research Assistantship Available for Graduate Student (PhD) in Environmental Health

Michigan State University's Department of Forestry is pleased to announce a graduate research assistantship to support a PhD student. The successful candidate will join the Growing Environmental Equity in Neighborhoods (Green) Lab, led by Dr. Samantha Gailey, 1855 Assistant Professor of Environmental Health Equity. We seek a creative and highly motivated student with excellent communication skills and a passion for environmental justice.

The Green Lab is an interdisciplinary research group that explores how natural, built, and social environments shape human health and disparities. Current projects focus on understanding (a) pathways linking greenspace to health; (b) health and equity impacts of community-based greenspace interventions and natural experiments; and (c) structural and contextual causes of health disparities across the life course. The accepted student is expected to pursue projects in one or more of these areas, while establishing a related independent research program that centers on human-environment relations.

In addition, students will develop an individualized, interdisciplinary course of graduate study that draws on theories and methodologies from diverse academic disciplines, which may include Forestry, Environmental Science and Policy, Public Health, Epidemiology, Geography, Urban Planning, or other relevant fields.

The assistantship is available starting Fall 2024. Funding for tuition, health and stipend is guaranteed for three years; additional funding opportunities may be available.

The candidate should have:

- An undergraduate degree
- Previously attained and maintained exceptional academic standing
- GRE scores
- A TOEFL score of 84 iBT or higher (required for students with non-English credentials only)
- A valid driver's license

Preference will be given to applicants with:

- A master's degree
- Experience conducting ecological, epidemiological, or social scientific research
- Proficiency in statistical/spatial analysis and programming (SAS, Stata, R, GIS)
- Peer-reviewed publications

Additionally, candidates must meet the minimum requirements outlined by Michigan State University's Graduate program, found here: <https://grad.msu.edu/>

The successful candidate will be supported for at least three years. Assistantships include:

- A bi-weekly stipend, determined by prior experience and education levels (first year stipend will be approximately \$28,522 without master's degree and \$31,668 with master's degree)
- A tuition waiver of up to nine credits per semester fall and spring and five credits during the summer with an out-of-state tuition waiver for students who take more than the covered number of credits each semester
- Enrollment in the University's graduate health insurance plan

Sources of graduate funding in addition to this assistantship are available through national and MSU programs. Students will be encouraged and assisted in seeking this funding.

To apply, please send a cover letter (1–2 pages), CV, unofficial transcripts, and the names and contact information for three references (including previous supervisor, if applicable) by email to Dr. Samantha Gailey at sgailey@msu.edu. Current MSU students and recent graduates may also apply via Handshake by searching for Posting #8346477. When applying, please indicate an interest in the Environmental Health Graduate Assistantship in the required Statement of Interests.

To ensure full consideration, please send materials to Dr. Gailey by **November 15, 2023**, but applications will be accepted until the position is filled. To be accepted into the graduate program, potential students will also apply through the MSU Graduate School at <https://grad.msu.edu/apply>.

Please visit https://www.canr.msu.edu/for/graduate/important_information_for_graduate_applicants for specific information regarding the Forestry graduate program. Students may also pursue a doctoral dual major (such as Environmental Science and Policy; <https://environment.msu.edu/education/dualmajor.html>).

Michigan State University is an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status or any other characteristic protected by law. The Department of Forestry is committed to promoting diversity in research. Members of underrepresented groups in STEM fields are highly encouraged to apply. We thank all applicants, but only those selected will be contacted.