

GRA Position #551 – Plant Breeding & Genetics

Position	Graduate Research Assistant (Ph.D.), 0.5 time
Location	Department of Agronomy Throckmorton Plant Sciences Center Kansas State University Manhattan, KS 66506-5501
Position Description	The Department of Agronomy at Kansas State University is seeking a highly motivated student for a Ph.D. degree under the advisement of Dr. Aaron Kusmec. The candidate will conduct research related to modeling and analysis of genotype-environment interactions with applications to gene discovery and plant breeding for the southern Great Plains. The research will involve the collection and processing of large phenotypic, genetic, and environmental datasets; simulations; statistical modeling; and field experiments. The candidate will have the opportunity to pursue collaborative projects with Kansas State University breeding programs in sorghum, wheat, soybean, and pearl millet.
Qualifications	B.S. in agronomy, genetics, plant science, or other closely related field. Ideal candidates will have a strong background in genetics and/or plant science, a desire to gain research experience, and possess strong written and oral communication skills. Experience in programming with Python or R and statistical analysis is preferred. The successful candidate should demonstrate self-motivation, creativity, and discipline.
Stipend	Annual PhD stipend is \$35,856. Graduate Research Assistants are considered Kansas residents for tuition purposes and are responsible for paying tuition and fees.
How to Apply	Applicants should send a statement of educational and career objectives, resume, transcripts (TOEFL scores for international applicants), and three references to: Dr. Aaron Kusmec Assistant Professor Department of Agronomy Kansas State University 3706 Throckmorton Plant Sciences Center Manhattan, KS 66506, Ph: 785-532-6941; E-mail: amkusmec@ksu.edu Further information about graduate studies at KSU Department of Agronomy can be found at: http://www.agronomy.ksu.edu or by contacting Robert Berry at rwb7@ksu.edu
Date Available	Spring 2025 Screening of applicants begins immediately and will continue until position is filled.

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