

Kansas Geological Survey (KGS)
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

POSITION TITLE: Science Communications Specialist

KU TITLE: Communications Specialist

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Review begins May 10, 2022, and will continue until a qualified pool of candidates is received.

TENTATIVE START DATE: July 5, 2022, exact start date is negotiable.

ADVERTISED SALARY RANGE: \$40,000 per year plus benefits.

POSITION OVERVIEW:

The Kansas Geological Survey (KGS) at the University of Kansas (KU) invites applications for a Science Communications Specialist. The KGS Outreach section oversees activities including social media communications, K-12 educational resources, public field trips, and KGS exhibits at local conferences and events. The successful candidate will be responsible for KGS social media communications, designing activities and events for the K-12 audiences and the general public, and developing new content for the KGS website.

Work as part of a team to support the mission of the Kansas Geological Survey (KGS). The Science Communications Specialist works collaboratively to develop and facilitate a variety of earth science content for the general public. An ideal candidate for this position is a team player that is organized, resourceful, and self-motivated. A hybrid work arrangement may be considered for the ideal candidate.

KU offers great benefits to employees with up to 176 hours of paid vacation earned per year, 96 hours of sick leave earned per year, nine paid holidays plus one discretionary day, a retirement program, medical & dental insurance, life and disability insurance, other benefit plan options, and State of Kansas discounts offered by various vendors. KU also offers employees educational and professional development opportunities. KGS at KU is a great place to work! The University actively encourages applications from members of underrepresented groups.

For more information about the KGS, visit our website: <http://www.kgs.ku.edu>.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- **(30%)** - Designs and coordinates social media communications for multiple KGS outlets, including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Youtube, and LinkedIn. Supports outreach activities and reporting associated with KGS scientists' research projects through these social media mediums.
- **(30%)** - Support outreach efforts by designing and co-facilitating public field trips and/or professional development workshops each year.
- **(20%)** - Developing earth science toolkits for K-12 educators and their classrooms.
- **(15%)** - Support outreach efforts by attending meetings, conferences, public events, and giving presentations as necessary.
- **(5%)** - Developing content for the GeoKansas website.

POSITION REQUIREMENTS:

1. Ability and willingness to travel up to four weeks per year to participate in meetings and other project-related activities.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Bachelor's degree in geology, earth and environmental sciences, or related field.
2. Minimum 1 year of relevant experience related to science outreach and communication.
3. Strong communication skills. Written skills will be evaluated by quality of application materials and/or published materials. Oral communication skills will be assessed by the interview and through reference checks.
4. Proficiency using Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint as evidenced by application materials.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Experience with video editing and production.
2. Demonstrated record of successful performance in a team environment.
3. Experience with Canva or other relevant graphic design software.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

Apply online only at <https://employment.ku.edu/staff/21905BR>. Upload the following information:

- Cover letter (max 2 pages) addressing the required and preferred qualifications and position requirements.
- Resume or CV
- Contact information for 3 references (email address, phone number, and relation to reference).

Unofficial college transcripts will be required from finalists to confirm education requirement.

First consideration given to applicants whose material is received by May 10, 2022.

Review begins May 10, 2022, and will continue until a qualified pool of applicants is received. For best consideration apply by the review date above.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

For further technical information contact Blair Schneider at blair.schneider@ku.edu.

For other HR information, contact Annette Delaney at adelaney@ku.edu.

KANSAS GEOLOGICAL SURVEY: The Kansas Geological Survey (KGS) is a research and service division of the University of Kansas that investigates and provides information about the state's geologic and groundwater resources. The KGS has no regulatory authority and does not take positions on natural resource issues.

KGS scientists pursue research related to surface and subsurface geology, energy resources, groundwater, and environmental hazards. They develop innovative tools and techniques, monitor earthquakes and groundwater levels, investigate water-quality concerns, and map the state's surface geology. Their analyses, findings, and data are shared with the scientific community and general public through publications, online resources, and presentations. The KGS also houses thousands of oil and gas and water well records filed with the state over several decades as well as thousands of rock cores and cuttings brought to Earth's surface during oil and gas drilling.

The main headquarters of the KGS is in Lawrence on the west campus of the [University of Kansas](#), and the [KGS Well Sample Library](#) is in Wichita. Between the two locations, the KGS has a staff of approximately 115 employees, including 35 student employees. The KGS reports to the [Vice Chancellor for Research](#) at the University of Kansas and has a 12-member [advisory council](#) to provide review and guidance.

[More...](#)

LAWRENCE: A city of approximately 95,000, Lawrence is located on a rolling landscape 35 miles west of the major metropolitan area of Kansas City and 20 miles east of Topeka, the state capital. Home to [Haskell Indian Nations University](http://www.haskell.edu) (<http://www.haskell.edu>) as well as KU, Lawrence offers the cultural and athletic events of a university setting. For more information on Lawrence, please visit the [Lawrence Convention and Visitors Bureau](http://www.visitlawrence.com) (<http://www.visitlawrence.com>), the [Lawrence CyberVillage](http://www.ci.lawrence.ks.us) (<http://www.ci.lawrence.ks.us>), or the [City of Lawrence](http://www.lawrenceks.org) (<http://www.lawrenceks.org>) web pages.

The University of Kansas prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, status as a veteran, sexual orientation, marital status, parental status, gender identity, gender expression and genetic information in the University's programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director of the Office of Institutional Opportunity and Access, IOA@ku.edu, 1246 W. Campus Road, Room 153A, Lawrence, KS, 66045, (785)864-6414, 711 TTY.