



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Agricultural, Human, and  
Natural Resource Sciences



## MS or PhD Graduate Assistantship

*Managing soil moisture and soil physical health for annual specialty crops in NW WA*

*Department of Crop and Soil Sciences*

*Washington State University, Mount Vernon, WA*

### Description of the Opportunity:

A research assistantship is available for an M.S. or PhD student with the Soils & Water program at WSU's Northwestern Washington Research and Extension Center (NWREC) in Mount Vernon, WA ([mtvernon.wsu.edu](http://mtvernon.wsu.edu)). Optimizing soil and water management to best utilize water resources has taken on new urgency in NW WA given increasing reliance on irrigation, competing demands for water resources, and the effects of climate change. The successful applicant will work with the project team to conduct research at the nexus of soil physical health, soil moisture, and irrigation management in fresh market potato production, and will lead extension and outreach activities including farmer participatory research, recorded videos, and workshop presentations.

### Desired Qualifications:

Successful completion of a B.S. degree in a related field, strong technical writing ability, and effective oral communication skills are required. Prior experience with soil science, lab analyses, field research, farming and farm equipment, data management, and statistics will be considered favorably, as will 2 years of licensed driving experience and the ability to obtain a U.S. driver's license.

### Contact and Apply:

Interested persons should apply to the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences (CSS). Please visit CSS at <http://css.wsu.edu>. The priority application deadline for Fall 2024 entry is January 10, 2024, and applicants may enter in either Spring or Fall 2024. Please contact Dr. Gabriel LaHue by e-mail ([gabriel.lahue@wsu.edu](mailto:gabriel.lahue@wsu.edu)) with questions.

**Assistantship Details:** Graduate assistantships (research and teaching) are formal half-time, academic-year appointments accompanied by a summer stipend, with annual estimated compensation of \$23,478 (MS) or \$24,708 (PhD). Graduate assistants also receive tuition waivers, as well as comprehensive health (medical/dental) insurance, and are eligible for additional support through scholarships, fellowships and travel grant awards. Qualifying recruits may be eligible for the prestigious ARCS fellowship of \$17,500 beyond the base assistantship stipend.

