

Laboratory Technician Position

The Ecosystem & Soil Microbial Processes Lab led by Dr. Pete Homyak in the Department of Environmental Sciences at UC-Riverside is accepting applications for a laboratory technician. Competitive candidates will have a B.S. (minimum requirement) and/or M.S. degree in biogeochemistry, soil science, soil microbiology, environmental science, ecology, or a closely related discipline. Some desired qualifications include: fieldwork experience, experience using scientific instruments, and familiarity with enzyme assays, mass spectrometry, soil C fractionation and nutrient extractions.

We research how soil microbial and abiotic processes control the exchange of elements such as N, P, and C across the soil–water–atmosphere interfaces to infer how anthropogenic disturbances and changes in global climate may alter ecosystem biogeochemistry and function. Several field projects are ongoing in sites along an elevation gradient in the Sierra Nevada, in several chaparral sites along an atmospheric nitrogen deposition gradient, in a rainfall manipulation experiment in a Pinyon-Juniper woodland, and in recently burned chaparral sites across California. We use several novel tools including a $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ -CO₂/CH₄ and N₂O isotopomer trace gas analyzers, LI-COR automated soil flux chambers, and instruments in FIRMS

(<https://ccb.ucr.edu/facilities/firms>) and the ESRL (<https://envisci.ucr.edu/research/environmental-sciences-research-laboratory-esrl>).

Job responsibilities include:

- Assist with research activities in the lab and field including projects led by students and postdocs.
- Coordinate the work of undergraduate research assistants.
- Learn to use laboratory instrumentation and field tools and assist with student training and sample processing and analysis.
- Train students on methods used in the lab.
- Maintain adequate inventory of laboratory supplies/consumables and oversight of laboratory safety. Operate instrumentation in the lab, FIRMS, and ESRL to process lab samples.
- Actively participate in research activities including seminars, workshops, and lab meetings.

How to apply: The position start day is **July 1, 2022**, and will be initially for one year with the hope that the technician will stay for multiple years if mutually desired and funding is available. Screening will begin **May 23rd, 2022**, and will continue until the position is filled. All UC employees receive comprehensive benefits including medical, dental, vision, and retirement plans. <https://ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/compensation-and-benefits/>. **Candidates should apply directly to Dr. Pete Homyak (phomyak@ucr.edu) by submitting a single PDF file containing: Curriculum vitae (CV), contact information of three references, and a cover letter indicating i) your research interests, ii) how you meet the minimum or desired qualifications, and iii) why our lab is a good fit. The subject of the email should be “Laboratory Technician Position”.**

For more information please visit <https://envisci.ucr.edu/faculty/homyak.html>

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Employer with a strong institutional commitment to the achievement of excellence and diversity among its faculty and staff. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, disability, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law. UCR is a world-class research university with an exceptionally diverse undergraduate student body. Its mission is explicitly linked to providing routes to educational success for underrepresented and first-generation college students.

UCR is located within one hour of downtown Los Angeles, a city that provides world-class cultural opportunities. [Riverside](#) also provides access to numerous outdoor recreational areas, including forest, alpine, ocean, and desert environments.