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## Qualifying for a Position with Wildlife Services

Do you want to work with wildlife? Do you enjoy solving problems? A job with the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's Wildlife Services might be the perfect opportunity for you!

Wildlife Services is a vital program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture leading our Nation's efforts to manage conflicts between people and wildlife. We hire experts in wildlife biology, natural resources management, chemistry, mathematics and statistics, budget and administration, and other specialized professions. Read on to learn how to qualify for our exciting positions.

### Natural Resources Management and Biological Sciences (0400 Series)

#### 0401 – General Natural Resources Management and Biological Sciences

*Degree:* Biological science, agriculture, natural resource management, chemistry, or related disciplines appropriate to the position; or

*Combination of Education and Experience:* Courses equivalent to a major listed above plus appropriate experience or additional education.

#### 0404 – Biological Science Technician

*Specialized Experience (for positions at GS-4 and above):* Experience related to the work of the position for which

you are applying. The specialized experience required for some positions in this series is normally work performed in a controlled environment; or

*Education (for GS-4):* Successful completion of 2 years of study that included at least 12 semester hours in any combination of scientific or technical courses such as biology, chemistry, statistics, entomology, animal husbandry, botany, physics, agriculture, or mathematics. At least 6 semester hours of courses must be directly related to the position you are applying to.

*Education (for GS-5):* Successful completion of a full 4-year course of study leading to a bachelor's degree with major study or at least 24 semester hours in any combination of courses such as those shown above for GS-4. At least 6 semester hours of courses must be directly related to the position you are applying to. The successful completion of a full course of study of at least 12 months in a school for clinical laboratory technicians may be substituted for the 1 year of specialized experience required at the GS-5 level for positions involving microbiology and biochemistry technician work.

#### 0486 – Wildlife Biology

##### Non-Research Positions

*Degree:* Biological science with at least 9 semester hours in wildlife subjects such as mammalogy, ornithology, animal ecology, wildlife management, or research courses in the field of wildlife biology; and at least 12 semester hours in

zoology such as general zoology, invertebrate zoology, vertebrate zoology, comparative anatomy, physiology, genetics, ecology, cellular biology, parasitology, entomology, or research courses in such subjects (excess courses in wildlife biology may be used to meet the zoology requirements where appropriate); and at least 9 semester hours in botany or related plant science; or *Combination of Education and Experience*: Equivalent to a major in biological science (i.e., at least 30 semester hours), with at least 9 semester hours in wildlife subjects, 12 semester hours in zoology, and 9 semester hours in botany or related plant science, as shown above, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

### Research Positions

*Degree*: Wildlife biology, zoology, or botany that included at least 30 semester hours of course work in biological science and 15 semester hours in the physical, mathematical, and earth sciences. This course work must have included the above requirements for non-research positions in addition to at least 15 semester hours of training in any combination of two or more of the following: chemistry, physics, mathematics, statistics, soils, and/or geology.



### Physical Sciences (1300 Series)

#### 1320 – Chemist

*Degree*: Physical sciences, life sciences, or engineering that included 30 semester hours in chemistry, supplemented by course work in mathematics through differential and integral calculus, and at least 6 semester hours of physics; or *Combination of Education and Experience*: Course work equivalent to a major as shown above, including at least 30 semester hours in chemistry, supplemented by mathematics through differential and integral calculus, and at least 6 semester hours of physics, plus appropriate experience, or additional education.

### Mathematics and Statistics (1500 Series)

#### 1530 – Computational Biologists and Statisticians

*Degree*: Any that included 15 semester hours in statistics (or in mathematics and statistics, provided at least 6 semester hours were in statistics), and 9 additional semester hours in one or more of the following: physical or biological sciences, medicine, education, or engineering; or in the social sciences including demography, history, economics, social welfare, geography, international relations, social or cultural anthropology, health sociology, political science, public administration, psychology, etc. Courses in which 50 percent of the content relate to statistical methods will count toward statistical course requirements, for example, courses that included studies in research methods in psychology or economics such as tests and measurements or business cycles, or courses in methods of processing mass statistical data such as tabulating methods or electronic data processing; or *Combination of Education and Experience*: Courses listed above, plus appropriate experience or additional education. Experience should include a full range of professional statistical work such as sampling; collecting, computing, and analyzing statistical data; and applying statistical techniques such as measurement of central tendency, dispersion, skewness, sampling error, simple and multiple correlation, analysis of variance, and tests of significance.

### General Administrative, Clerical, and Office Services (0300 Series) and Accounting and Budget (0500 Series)

#### 0303 – Administrative Support Assistant

#### 0560 – Budget Analyst

*General Experience*: Progressively responsible clerical, office, or other work that indicates ability to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to perform the duties of the position to be filled.

*Specialized Experience*: Experience should equip you with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to successfully perform the duties of the position, and that is typically in or related to the position to be filled. To be creditable, specialized experience must have been equivalent to at least the next lower grade level. Applicants who have 1 year of appropriate specialized experience are not required by this standard to have general experience, education above the high school level, or any additional specialized experience to meet the minimum qualification requirements.

#### Learn More

Visit the Office of Personnel Management for more qualification requirements.

