



Graduate Research Assistantship in Urban Entomology

Position Description: The [DeVries Lab](#) at the University of Kentucky is recruiting a graduate student (M.S. or Ph.D.) with a focus in urban entomology. Defined broadly, urban entomology encompasses a multitude of topics relating to pests found indoors and around structures. Potential research topics could include (but are not limited to) urban pest management (IPM, baiting, novel strategies), urban pest behavior (cockroach foraging, bed bug host attraction), physiology (metabolism, respiration, insecticide resistance), and health risks associated with urban pests (cockroach allergens, bed bug histamine). The successful applicant will be a highly motivated individual who can work independently while also benefiting from working as part of a collaborative team. The successful applicant will have good organizational skills (communication, planning, etc.), research experience (project design, data collection, data analysis, reporting results), and a passion for their work.

UK Department of Entomology: The [UK Entomology Department](#) is comprised of over 20 faculty with expertise in numerous disciplines. The faculty, staff, and students are extremely energetic and passionate about their work, which is reflected in our department being consistently ranked as one of the most productive programs in the country. Students from our department have gone on to have successful careers in a variety of sectors, including academia, industry, and the government.

Life in Lexington: Lexington is a vibrant city that maintains a collegiate atmosphere. Ranked highly in the US News and World Report [Best Places to Live](#), Lexington boasts a wide variety of restaurants and shopping, and is close to some wonderful hiking trails (1 hour to the [Red River Gorge](#)). Also, due to its central location, travel (driving and flying) to and from Lexington is both easy and convenient.

Start Date and Compensation: The successful applicant will start between March and August 2025 (as mutually agreed upon). The assistantship includes a competitive stipend, tuition, and health insurance.

Application Procedure: Interested applicants should submit the following to Zachary DeVries via email (zdevries@uky.edu) with the subject line “2025 Urban Entomology Application”:

1. Cover letter describing your research experience, interests, and career goals
2. CV/Resume (including GPA and GRE scores, if taken)
3. Unofficial transcript(s)
4. Name and contact information for three references

Review of applications will begin February 1, 2025, and will continue until a suitable candidate is identified. Successful applicants will also be required to apply to the University of Kentucky Graduate School, but this can be delayed until a later date.

Questions: Please direct all questions to Zachary DeVries (zdevries@uky.edu)