

The University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna is active in teaching and research and provides services in connection with ensuring animal health in Austria. These tasks represent our contribution to maintaining the health of humans and their animal companions as well as to producing healthy food.

To meet our objectives, our institute Unit of Veterinary Public Health and Epidemiology (Institute of Food Safety, Food Technology and Veterinary Public Health/Department for Farm Animals and Veterinary Public Health) is looking for a

PhD-Student

Einstufung: B1
Beschäftigungsausmaß: 30 hours / week
Dauer des Dienstverhältnisses: 3 years
Bewerbungsfrist: 24.04.2021

The PhD-Thesis should cover the topic „Development of a model for systematic financial and economic assessment of the control of Salmonella and Hepatitis E virus infections in the pig production chain“. First tasks are linked with the One Health European Joint Programming project Biopigee (<https://onehealth.ejp.eu/jrp-biopigee/>). The overall aim of the PhD project is to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of different intervention measures in reducing the prevalence of selected zoonotic pathogens along the farm-to-consumption production chain and thus contributing to risk reduction for consumers. In this approach, data on disease costs, production losses, costs of surveillance and mitigation measures and effects on intracommunity and international trade should be considered. In addition to the consideration of differences in the effectiveness of individual intervention measures, the impact of different production systems, temporal aspects and spatial changes of the supply structure, fluctuations of supply, demand and prices on the market (e.g. milk, meat and feed price) need to be addressed. The PhD student will evaluate different mitigation options and develop a tool to assess whether different mitigation measures are likely to be economically viable.

Tasks

In the context of this project, the task of the PhD-student is the assessment of the effectiveness and efficiency of different surveillance and intervention measures against Salmonella and Hepatitis E virus in the pig production chain:

- Collaboration in the project Biopigee including dealing with administrative tasks
- Collection of data relevant for economic assessment of different surveillance and intervention measures covering also the impact on trade
- Assessment of the effectiveness and efficiency of several measures to reduce specific zoonotic agents in the pig production chain
- Development of a tool to assess the economic efficiency of several intervention measures
- Preparation of scientific publications, presentations and training material

Specific requirements

- Qualification corresponding to a master's degree in veterinary medicine, animal science, or any other relevant field
- Proven experience in the review of scientific literature and the preparation of scientific reports required
- Good understanding of the economic aspects of pig production is needed
- Knowledge in the area of porcine diseases with a focus on infectious diseases and in the area of biosecurity measures would be beneficial
- Profound knowledge on pig production systems in Austria and preferably in other European countries would be beneficial
- Fluent in English (oral and written) (C1-level)
- Fluent in German (B2-level)

Additional qualifications and skills

- Experience in other aspects of livestock production or food safety
- Previous experience of collaboration in an international research project
- Curious mind-set with a strong interest in collaboration and willingness to perform

Contact for additional information

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Minimum salary

The minimum salary for university staff is regulated by the collective contract and at the level given above amounts to EUR 2.228,60 gross per month (14 times/year). The minimum salary may be increased when previous employment and other salary components are taken into account.

Applications

Please submit applications quoting the **reference number 2021/0413** via e-mail (preferably) to bewerbungen@vetmeduni.ac.at or by post to the Personnel Department of the University of Veterinary Medicine, Veterinärplatz 1, 1210 Vienna. Please do not forget to include the reference number or we shall be unable to relate your application to the correct vacancy announcement.

The Vetmeduni Vienna is attempting to increase the proportion of female staff, particularly in senior positions, and in accordance with § 41 of the 2002 Universities Act it is striving to attain a balanced representation of men and women, especially on its scientific staff. Applications from qualified women are thus particularly welcomed. If women are underrepresented (below 50%), female applicants who are as well qualified as the best qualified male applicants will be given preference, provided that there are no strong reasons for favouring a particular male candidate.

Applicants have no entitlement to reimbursement of any travel or accommodation costs they may incur as a result of the application procedure.

The Vetmeduni Vienna is proud to have been awarded the certificate "*hochschuleundfamilie*" (career and family). We should thus be especially pleased to receive applications from people with families. Applications from persons with disabilities are similarly welcome.