

Community Economic Development Advisor Applied Research and Extension

Serving Inyo, Mono & Northern Kern Counties, California

Position Overview

The University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR) offers a unique recruitment opportunity for a **UC Cooperative Extension (UCCE) Community Economic Development Advisor**. UC ANR operates a statewide network of researchers and educators dedicated to the development and application of knowledge to address local agricultural, environmental, youth and community health issues. Over 150 UCCE advisors conduct research, outreach and education from locally based CE offices serving all 58 counties from 70+ locations throughout the state. By working and living among those we serve, UC ANR expands the University of California's reach to engage all people and communities in California, ensuring equal access to the UC system.

Location Headquarters. Bishop, Inyo County, CA



Purpose. The Community Economic Development Advisor will implement an innovative extension education and applied research program focused on the intersection of rural economic development as related to local business development and connectivity, broadband, and access to enhanced remote/online services.

The position will involve:

- Coordinating with local entities to develop and implement strategies for supporting economic vitality and opportunities in local communities and in independent small businesses, broadly;
- Perform market opportunity analysis, assessing and monitoring economic indicators to understand the impact of current events and policy developments in the Eastern Sierra;
- Assessing the impact of efficient remote access in facilitating economic development and community resilience;
- Strengthening economic resilience by fostering innovation, a diverse business community, and advancing business planning and workforce development through enhanced remote services, information access, and utilization.

This position offers the opportunity to integrate and bring focus to the potential for rural economic development given the growth in broadband infrastructure, federal and state investment in climate innovations industries, and the potential for growth in rural and remote communities, particularly in light of the national move toward remote work access.

The advisor is expected to implement a range of extension activities to address local needs, e.g. via workshops, seminars, field days, short courses, newsletters, and lay publications, in coordination with local public agencies and non-profits. Applied research and creative activity are expected to be aligned with the position description and determined by clientele needs, and will include collaboration on projects, securing grant funding from public agencies, private foundations, and commodity groups, and publications in relevant topical journals. The advisor is expected to show professional competence such as presenting at local or regional meetings of professionals, service providers, or other industry partners, and University and public service.

There are numerous extension and research partnerships with residents, companies, local, state, and federal agencies, UC and CSU colleagues, and NGOs as well the variety of UC ANR programs and academics. The advisor joins a team of highly motivated UCCE colleagues who are passionate about their work and are dedicated to making a difference within the communities and throughout California. The potential for collaborative projects within the UC ANR system is nearly limitless.

This is an exciting opportunity to develop and deliver relevant program content to have meaningful impacts in local communities and throughout California.

Counties of Responsibility. This position will be headquartered in Inyo County and serve Mono County as well as Ridgecrest and Inyokern in northeastern Kern County.

Reporting Relationship: The CE Advisor serves under the administrative guidance of the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) County Director for Inyo and Mono counties with input from the Kern County UCCE Director in the coverage area.

Qualifications and Skills Required

Required Qualifications

Education: A minimum of a Master's degree in community and economic development, business, public health, public administration, GIS, information science, or related field is required at the time of appointment.

Additional Requirements

- Ability and means to travel on a flexible schedule as needed, proof of liability and property damage insurance on vehicle used is required. Must possess valid California Driver's License to drive a County or University vehicle.
- Solid understanding of rural broadband access and utilization.
- This is not a remote position. The candidate must be available to be onsite.



Desired Experience

- Experience in rural communities and natural resource-based economies
- Passion and desire to pursue a career in Cooperative Extension and community development
- Experience in building partnerships and with multidisciplinary teams
- Demonstrated ability to effectively plan programs, manage teams, and implement an applied research and outreach program, including setting measurable goals and objectives
- Knowledge of telemedicine delivery and implementation

Skills Required

To be successful, the CE Advisor requires skills in the following areas:

Technical Competence and Impact

The candidate should have a deep understanding of community and regional economic development opportunities, including identification and utilization of infrastructure investments such as rural broadband deployment. The candidate must be able to design and implement a program that leads to positive changes and impact within the community and beyond. There is an expectation that advisors evolve and grow across their career and respond to changes in the industry and by clientele.

Communication

Demonstrated excellence in written, oral, and interpersonal and information technology communication skills. Public speaking to stakeholders is a routine part of this position.

Demonstrated ability to share complex information in a manner tailored to the audience.

Utilizes appropriate technologies to communicate effectively over a large, remote geographical area.

Collaboration, Teamwork and Flexibility

Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively as a team member with industry and other stakeholders. Due to the position's location east of the Sierra Nevada range, the ability to plan, collaborate, and interact with clientele and colleagues in creative ways is essential. Creativity and flexibility will be required for success.

Aware of and willing to actively promote diversity, equity, and inclusion while planning and implementing programs and applied research.

Lifelong Learning

Demonstrated commitment to ongoing self-improvement. Ability to shift program focus as times and organizational needs change.

Learn more about Skills and Areas of Programmatic Review (including Professional Competence, University and Public Service and Affirmative Action and DEI) at:

<https://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/files/319460.pdf>

About UC ANR

The University of California, Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR) consists of a network of scientists and educators working in partnership across California. We are committed to developing and supporting practical, science-based solutions that contribute to healthy food systems, healthy environments, healthy communities, and healthy Californians. UC ANR administers UC Cooperative Extension (UCCE), which is responsible for program development and delivery in the counties throughout the state of California.

Learn more about

- UC ANR at <https://UCANR.edu>
- UC ANR in counties: [https://ucanr.edu/sites/ucanr/County Offices/](https://ucanr.edu/sites/ucanr/County_Offices/)
- Our Strategic Initiatives <http://ucanr.edu/sites/StrategicInitiatives/>
- Our Public Value statements at
[https://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/Divisionwide Planning/UC ANR Public Values/](https://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/Divisionwide_Planning/UC_ANR_Public_Values/)

- DEI: Further to the above, advisors are expected to share and exhibit UC ANR's commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion [https://ucanr.edu/sites/Professional_Development/Office - Team Management/Diversity_Equity_Inclusion_Belonging/](https://ucanr.edu/sites/Professional_Development/Office - Team_Management/Diversity_Equity_Inclusion_Belonging/)
- Affirmative: Further to the above, Advisors are expected to share and exhibit UC ANR's commitment to affirmative action. Learn more of UC ANR Affirmative Action policy: http://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/Diversity/Affirmative_Action/
- The University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources is committed to attracting and retaining a diverse workforce and will honor your experiences, perspectives and unique identity. We encourage applications from members of historically underrepresented racial/ethnic groups, women, individuals with disabilities, veterans, LGBTQ+ community members, and others who demonstrate the ability to help us create and maintain working and learning environments that are inclusive, equitable and welcoming.

About the Eastern Sierra

California's Eastern Sierra region is noted for its beautiful mountains, open space, and recreational opportunities. It is a land of stunning contrasts with both the highest and lowest points in the contiguous 48 states. Most land is owned by governmental entities which provides open, undeveloped spaces, but it also creates unique challenges to economic expansion and commercial services. Ridgecrest, Bishop, and Mammoth Lakes are the main retail centers in the region, all linked by US Highway 395.

Bishop is located approximately 5 hours north of Los Angeles and 4 hours south of Reno, Nevada.

Salary & Benefits

Salary: The salary range for this Cooperative Extension Advisor position is Assistant Rank, Step I (\$71,200) to Step VI (\$94,000). Step placement in the advisor series is based on applicable experience and professional qualifications. For information regarding Cooperative Extension Advisor salary scales, please refer to the University of California website: <https://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/files/358478.pdf>. If the successful candidate is currently a UCCE Advisor, the candidate will be offered the position without change to the candidate's current rank, step, salary and/or appointment terms; and if applicable, is eligible to retain indefinite status.

This position is eligible for indefinite status following three successful reviews and subject to terms noted in UC ANR Policy and Procedure Manual, Section 315 <https://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/files/118501.pdf>

Benefits: The University of California offers comprehensive benefits including health insurance, retirement plans, two days per month paid vacation, one day per month paid sick leave, and paid holidays. This position is eligible for sabbatical leave privileges as per the terms of the University policy. For more information, refer to the UC Benefits website at: <https://ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/compensation-and-benefits/index.html>

How to Apply

If interested in this position, please visit: <https://recruit.ucanr.edu/> and choose "applicants" (refer to position 21-55)

Closing Date: To assure full consideration, application packets must be received by **May 2, 2023** – (open until filled)

Questions?

Contact Tatiana Avoce – tavoce@ucanr.edu

Applicants may wish to explore the UC Davis Services for International Students and Scholars web page at <https://siss.ucdavis.edu/> as a resource.

University of California Cooperative Extension

As a condition of employment, you will be required to comply with the University of California [Policy on Vaccination Programs – With Updated Interim Amendments](#). All Covered Individuals under the policy must provide proof of receiving the COVID-19 Vaccine Primary Series or, if applicable, submit a request for Exception (based on Medical Exemption, Disability, Religious Objection, and/or Deferral based on pregnancy or recent COVID-19 diagnosis and/or treatment) no later than the applicable deadline. All Covered Individuals must also provide proof of receiving the most recent CDC-recommended COVID-19 booster or properly decline such booster no later than the applicable deadline. New University of California employees should refer to [Exhibit 2](#), Section II.C. of the [SARS-CoV-2 \(COVID-19\) Vaccination Program Attachment](#) for applicable deadlines. All Covered Individuals must also provide proof of being Up-To-Date on seasonal influenza vaccination or properly decline such vaccination no later than the applicable deadline. Please refer to the [Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Program Attachment](#). (Capitalized terms in this paragraph are defined in the policy.) Federal, state, or local public health directives may impose additional requirements.

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age, protected veteran status or other protected categories covered by the UC nondiscrimination policy.

As of January 1, 2014, ANR is a smoke- and tobacco-free environment in which smoking, the use of smokeless tobacco products, and the use of unregulated nicotine products (e-cigarettes), is strictly prohibited.