



Funded MS Research Assistant Position

Applications are invited for a masters-level research assistant (RA) position (starting Fall 2024) in the Department of Geography at Oklahoma State University to work in the [HydRA](#) (Hydroclimate and Environmental Adaptation) lab led by Dr. Saber E. Brasher.

This assistantship is made possible by the recently funded NSF project, “Rural Confluence: Communities and Academic Partners Uniting to Drive Discovery and Build Capacity for Climate Resilience”. Interested students can learn more about the project as a whole [in the NSF project description](#). This assistantship will be focused on “Aim 2” of the project, which is to project rural climate change impacts and community resilience scenarios while accounting for slow-burn processes such as population decline. In particular, the student will investigate hydroclimatic changes in the rural focus communities as well as potential impacts and future implications.

Students interested in topics including precipitation and drought, atmospheric dynamics, water availability (streamflow, groundwater, soil moisture, reservoirs) under climate change, and how all the above impacts rural communities and their livelihoods are encouraged to apply. The position offers a stipend and a tuition waiver.

Ideal candidates will have a background that includes:

- A BS degree in Atmospheric Science or Environmental Science/ adjacent discipline (with coursework in climatology, meteorology, or hydrology, etc.)
- Proficiency in a scientific programming language (e.g., R, Python)
- Prior courses in math (statistics/ calculus) and/or physics
- Attention to detail in written/oral communications and data handling
- Strong work ethic, readiness to learn, and excitement to collaborate with others

A strong candidate does not have to contain all the above, but most. The student should be motivated to acquire whatever qualifications they may be missing during their time here.

About the Program: The student will be under the supervision of Dr. Saber E. Brasher in the Department of Geography and work in the HydRA lab, but they will apply to the graduate program in Environmental Science (ESGP). The student will be required to meet all the prerequisites for entry into the ESGP for admission, which are outlined [here \(the "Thesis" option\)](#). The project itself is very transdisciplinary in nature. The student can expect to work with scientists across multiple OSU departments as well as project team members from other universities as a part of their graduate training and development.

Application: Applicants should email Dr. Saber E. Brasher (saber.brasher@okstate.edu) a CV, unofficial transcripts, and a brief statement that discusses research ideas and future career goals. This statement/ initial email should also emphasize how the candidate meets the background criteria above. If the candidate is international, they should also report their TOEFL/ IELTS scores. Applications will be reviewed continuously as they arrive and a meeting (either in person or through zoom for non-local candidates) will be scheduled with well-matching candidates in early January. Only after the meetings will a candidate be recommended to apply to the graduate program for this position.