



## **Position Title**

### **Regional Extension Educator – Economic & Community Development**

## **Background Information/Job Location**

Purdue University Extension is expanding its investment in the economic and community development area by establishing a network of regional educators having expertise and experience in a variety of key community/economic development subject matter areas. FIVE regional positions will be established across the state.

One Regional Extension Educator will be located in each of the five Purdue Extension districts (Southeast, Southwest, Central, Northeast and Northwest). Counties associated each Extension district can be found at the following site: <http://www3.ag.purdue.edu/extension/Pages/districts.aspx>. Applicants are urged to specify whether they wish to be considered for all five regions or for a specific region(s) only.

## **Required Qualifications & Experience**

An earned masters' degree from an accredited institution of higher education in the field of community and/or economic development, agricultural economics, regional or applied economics, urban and regional planning, business education, public administration, sociology/rural sociology, human sciences, adult education, or other closely related areas of study.

The applicant is required to have a minimum of five years of experience working in a professional role in the Cooperative Extension Service system or closely related areas of work, such as community colleges/adult education programs; community-based organizations; state, regional or local community/economic development organizations/agencies; community/economic development oriented foundations; or entrepreneurial or small business enterprises. Relevant experience in other related areas of work will be considered as well.

The person serving in this role will be required to travel throughout the district and at times, outside the district or state. In most cases, the person must provide his/her own transportation with reimbursement provided for all appropriate expenses. The person will be expected to work evenings and weekends, as needed, to meet the educational and technical assistance needs of constituents.

## Areas of Expertise

The applicant must have demonstrated training and/or expertise in one or more the following community or regional development subject-matter areas:

**Leadership and Civic Engagement . . .** such as community leadership training, deliberative strategies, and public issues education;

**Community/Regional Planning and Collaboration. . .** such as strategic planning/action, conflict mediation, facilitation skills, organizational development, and building inclusive partnerships.

**Economic Development . . .** such as entrepreneurship, business retention & expansion, broadband/e-commerce, retail development and analysis, small & medium-sized enterprises, and business succession planning.

**Economic Impact Analysis and Decision-Making. . .** such as input/output models, economic simulation models, and regional industry cluster analysis.

**Local and/or Regional Government . . .** such as local government education/certification programs, public finance, provision of public services, and e-government strategies.

**Natural/Environmental Resources . . .** such as sustainable development, land use planning, local/regional food systems, natural resource/environmental management, and eco-tourism.

## Skills/Abilities

### Required skills and abilities:

- Experience working in the community, economic, and/or regional development arena.
- Ability to develop, refine, deliver and evaluate research-based community and/or regional development programs targeted to key stakeholders.
- Skill in guiding and supporting the community and economic development activities of county and region-based Extension educators.
- Ability to employ innovative teaching strategies in the delivery of educational programs.
- Capacity to build strong partnerships relationships with relevant local and regional organizations and agencies.
- Commitment to work with, and seek the guidance of, university-based Extension and research faculty and staff.
- Ability to work with a diversity of people, organizations and communities in guiding the educational needs and opportunities of local and regional constituents.
- Excellent listening, writing, and public speaking/presentation skills.

### Preferred skills and abilities:

- Ability to use technology for communication, information gathering, program delivery and reporting.
- Experience developing research-based community development-related curricula or other educational resources for adult, non-credit educational environments.
- Ability to compile and/or analyze pertinent demographic, social, and economic data and effectively communicate results in a timely fashion to stakeholders.

## Duties/Responsibilities

**Establish Priority Goals:** Work with the Extension program leader/assistant program leaders, district director, colleagues and constituents in the development of program goals that meet local and regional needs/opportunities.

**Develop & Deliver Programs:** Design, refine and deliver high quality educational programs that address local and regional needs; employ information technologies to facilitate the delivery of ECD programs, as appropriate.

**Market and Evaluate:** Market educational programs to the diversity of people, organizations and counties in the region; evaluate and assess impacts of programs on target audiences.

**Promote Collaboration:** Build and maintain effective county, regional, university and state partnerships that enhance the development and delivery of sound Extension educational programs; participate in the development of innovative educational programs by working with interdisciplinary Extension and Research groups, such as the Issue-Based Action Teams (IBATs).

**Support Teamwork:** Foster and contribute to a positive work climate and effective teamwork with Extension colleagues, advisory group members, partners and target audiences; assist county-based Extension educators in the delivery of ECD programs in your specific areas of expertise.

**Capture Funding:** Secure grants, contracts and other resources to support and strengthen county and regional Extension programs and applied research activities;

**Serve on Committees:** Represent Extension through service on community, county and regional boards, task forces and other appropriate committees.

**Seek Professional Development:** Advance area(s) of expertise by engaging in professional development opportunities and participating in relevant professional organizations, meetings and conferences;

## How to Apply

Visit the following Purdue University employment website to apply for one or more of the five regional positions:

[http://purdue.taleo.net/careersection/wl/jobdetail.ftl?job=210441&lang=en&sns\\_id=mailto](http://purdue.taleo.net/careersection/wl/jobdetail.ftl?job=210441&lang=en&sns_id=mailto)

## Questions?

Please contact Dr. Bo Beaulieu ([ljb@purdue.edu](mailto:ljb@purdue.edu)), Assistant Director, Extension Economic & Community Development (ECD) Program, or Dr. Michael Wilcox ([wilcox16@purdue.edu](mailto:wilcox16@purdue.edu)), Assistant ECD Program Leader.

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