Position Description: Visiting Climatologist

Division of Illinois State Water Survey
Prairie Research Institute
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

The Division of Illinois State Water Survey has been a leader in the study of water resources for more than a century. Our research and service programs provide citizens, industries, and government agencies at all levels with timely, science-based information and analysis necessary to manage our water resources wisely for economic development and a sustainable environment. The Midwestern Regional Climate Center is a cooperative program between the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) and the Illinois State Water Survey in Champaign, Illinois. Our center is a partner in a national climate service program that includes NCDC, five other Regional Climate Centers, and State Climate Offices. The NCDC is part of the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

We are seeking a Visiting Climatologist to communicate, assess and monitor climate conditions from around the Midwest Regional Climate Center’s (MRCC) 9-state region.

Duties and Responsibilities:
Develop, organize, and host climate partner and stakeholder workshops and market the MRCC on regional road trips. Write weekly and monthly climate summary reports on the climate conditions of the region (e.g., impacts, extremes, patterns) and participate in media interviews and press releases. Aid in the development of value-added climate tools and applied climate research. Climate tools are often designed to help better assess and monitor either present or past climate conditions. Initiate, participate, and contribute to the pursuit of external funding and lead applied climate research, resulting in peer-reviewed publications. Support the MRCC Climate Service Office when necessary. Travel to conferences, meetings, and workshops as necessary.

Education:
Required: PhD, or ABD with PhD completion within 12 months of hire, in atmospheric sciences or related field. Preferred: Advanced degree thesis and/or dissertation having a research focus in applied climatology.

Required experience:
Work with historical atmospheric observation data in operational and/or research applications. Minimum of 2 years of professional work in related field beyond work related to the pursuit of the advanced degree. A minimum of 1 semester of teaching experience. Customer service experience, strong organizational skills and attention to detail. Peer-reviewed publication authorship experience.
Preferred experience:
FORTRAN, C/C++, Perl, Python, or other scripting/programming language. Data visualization experience with either GrADS, NCL, GIS, or other spatial mapping, scripted language. Grant-writing experience/record. Experience communicating climate or other atmospheric principles either in a classroom, workshop, or public environment. Marketing experience that involves networking with stakeholders.

Knowledge Requirements:
Proficiency with Windows OS and Windows applications. Excellent English oral and written communication skills.

This is a visiting full-time position paid on a 12-month basis. Position may become a regular position at a later date depending on funding and a programmatic need.

Proposed start date: as soon as possible after close, or until a suitable candidate is identified. Salary: is commensurate with qualifications and experience. Appointment status: 12-month, visiting academic professional position

Application procedures:
Please complete your candidate profile at http://jobs.illinois.edu and upload a cover letter, CV, and the names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses of three professional references must be received by August 29, 2014. Interviews may be conducted before the closing date. All requested information must be submitted for your application to be considered.

For further information regarding application procedures, you may contact Hannah Dorsey at (217)333-4978 or hdorsey@illinois.edu.

Illinois is an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, status as a protected veteran, or status as a qualified individual with a disability. Illinois welcomes individuals with diverse backgrounds, experiences, and ideas who embrace and value diversity and inclusivity (www.inclusiveillinois.illinois.edu).