



## **Undergraduate Research Technician, Spring/Summer 2019 Mims Lab, Virginia Tech**

The Mims Lab in the Department of Biological Sciences at Virginia Tech is recruiting an undergraduate research technician for late-Spring and Summer 2019 to assist with amphibian field work and experiments. The technician will work with the Mims Lab and will gain valuable experience working as part of a team of researchers.

**Required qualifications:** The successful applicant will work closely with graduate students in the Mims Lab. The ability to communicate clearly and in a timely manner, to work long days in potentially hot and/or wet conditions with biting insects, and to lift and maneuver equipment (e.g., large experimental ponds and science equipment) up to 45 lbs *is required*. An ability to pay attention to small details, be trustworthy and reliable with multiple tasks is vital. Primary tasks will include evening field work at ponds in southwestern VA collecting frogs for genetic research and daily monitoring of experimental ponds containing developing frogs for development research. Evening field work includes hiking to ponds and wetlands after sunset and wading in potentially deep/muddy waters to capture frogs for tissue collection. Monitoring includes checking water levels and heating systems in experimental ponds and taking tadpole measurements. The applicant should be available starting as soon as April 22nd, but will not be expected to work during the week of final exams. The applicant will be trained in monitoring the pond experiment during the initial work weeks and is expected to become self-sufficient in those tasks. The successful applicant must be available May 19th to the 24th to monitor the experimental ponds alone.

**Preferred qualifications:** Previous research and field work experience related to amphibians is preferred. Please indicate any lab or benchwork work experience as well, for potentially assisting in tissue DNA extractions. The technician will also be expected to assist with additional research tasks as they arise.

**Details:** Part time at ~20 hours per week. Some weeks, specifically May 19-24, will require full-time work. Pay is \$10-12/hour, commensurate with experience. Note that access to a personal vehicle is preferred, though not required. If no vehicle is available, be prepared to walk ~30 minutes or bike ~10 minutes to the VT Aviary on the edge of campus.

**How to apply:** Applicants will be reviewed on a rolling basis, starting Monday, April 1st. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. To apply, please send a statement of interest (1 page max) and resume/CV including contact information for 1-2 references to Elizabeth Shadle, [ejshadle@vt.edu](mailto:ejshadle@vt.edu) and Chloe Moore, [chloe9mo@vt.edu](mailto:chloe9mo@vt.edu).