

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Date: September 26, 2023

Girls on outdoor Adventure for Leadership and Science (GALS) Graduate Research Assistantship (RA) Position Available Spring 2024

Application Timeline: Application review will begin Friday, October 30, 2023

Position Description:

Girls on outdoor Adventure for Leadership and Science (GALS) is a free summer science program for female-identifying or gender non-conforming high school students from backgrounds traditionally under-represented in STEM. During GALS, participants spend two weeks learning hands-on science and developing their own research projects while backpacking through local forests. Dr. Jackie Gerson developed GALS in 2016 in North Carolina (<http://sciencegals.org>), and it has since been run in five states. We are currently developing a Michigan program to be run at the W.K. Kellogg Biological Station (KBS) starting in summer 2025.

We have funding through a USDA NIFA grant to support a Research Assistant (RA) in spring 2024 to begin developing programmatic materials. This position will be co-supervised by Jackie Gerson in the Department of Earth and Environmental Science and Misty Klotz at KBS.

Per university RA expectations, this position will expect 20 hours/week. Activities will involve general logistical and organizational needs as we work to develop the program at MSU and based on the RA's own experiences and expertise.

Specific tasks will vary throughout the semester and will include:

1. Developing GALS Michigan website
2. Creating student and leader application materials and rubrics
3. Developing place-based lesson plans
4. Assembling trip-specific gear
5. Developing program evaluation/assessment forms
6. Leading a team of graduate students in programmatic development



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Qualifications: Graduate students pursuing a Ph.D. who have completed at least one year of graduate work at MSU are eligible to apply. We are looking for someone who is detailed oriented; has strong interpersonal and communication skills; has demonstrated experience in working as part of a team; has demonstrated training and/or experience in diversity, equity and inclusion; and is passionate about the mission of GALS. MSU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer, committed to a policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of race, sex, gender identity and expression, age, religion, color, national origin, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, or on any other basis prohibited by applicable law. Please note: we will soon be looking for graduate student volunteers to be involved in other aspects of GALS programmatic development and next year, we will be looking for summer trip leaders.

To Apply: Submit the following as a single pdf: 1) a cover letter describing why you are interested in the position and any relevant skills or experiences; 2) a curriculum vitae; and 3) a letter of support from your faculty advisor. Application file should be named "LastName_GALS_RA.pdf", and emailed to Jackie Gerson gersonja@msu.edu