Doctoral Fellowship Positions Available

What is AgrAbility?

Kentucky AgrAbility is part of the National AgrAbility Project and exists as a partnership between the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service and Cardinal Hill Rehabilitation Hospital. Since 1993, the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service has received funding from the AgrAbility Project to provide education and technical assistance to agriculture operators and farm family members who face the challenges of a disability. Farm families may feel that problems such as these make it too difficult to continue farming activities. But with our help, they can. Kentucky AgrAbility assists rural and farm families in overcoming limitations. Kentucky AgrAbility works to maximize these individual’s abilities on the farm. Even if the disabled family member is not the producer, the farm family still suffers. That is why Kentucky AgrAbility also focuses on Kentucky farm women, older farmers, farm children, minorities, and limited resource farmers.

Services:

• Provide direct on-farm technical assistance, such as modifying tools, equipment, and machinery.
• Facilitate networking among farmers with disabilities to share ideas, experiences, and support.
• Help find financial support for assistive technology and farm equipment modifications.
• Network with national organizations that provide assistive technology for farmers with disabilities.
• Access and make recommendations to make homes and farm buildings more accessible.
• Refer individuals to appropriate agencies and organizations that best meets their needs.
• Train rural healthcare professionals and providers on Rehabilitation Technology in Agriculture.
• Participate in rural safety, injury prevention, and disability awareness and education programs.

The Cardinal Hill AgrAbility Occupational Therapy Fellow will work with the AgrAbility extension agent to provide services to Kentucky farm families. The job entails job site analysis, equipment adaptation, safety assessments and home and farm modifications, assistive technology assessment among other tasks. This position will also require help with educational training for other allied healthcare providers, farmers and extension agents. Other expectations for the fellow are, participating in grant writing, professional presentations, publications and research.

The position requires travel around the state for both one-on-one service provision on farms as well as providing trainings for various groups. A knowledge of and interest in rural health, assistive technology, equipment adaptation and safety issues is important. There will be many opportunities for on the job training as well. This position requires strong self-management skills and someone who is a motivated self-starter.

If interested, please contact:

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