

Attached is a job description for a new position at Lone Oaks Farm, which represents a new and exciting partnership between the University of Tennessee and Hardeman County Schools. This is an exciting opportunity for individuals interested in STEM education, with significant opportunity for career advancement.

Lone Oaks Farm is a new facility administered by UT Extension. It is an incredible facility encompassing 1,200 pristine acres of open land and woods, lakes, trails, wetlands, and streams. Our vision for Lone Oaks is for it to become a premier educational facility that hosts not only 4-H and other youth camps during the summer, but also year around STEM education programs for K-12 schools throughout West Tennessee. By using the incredible outdoor laboratory at the Farm, we want to become a national model for using agriculture, wildlife, fisheries, forestry, and the outdoors as a way to excite and engage students in STEM disciplines.

The year round STEM education program will serve K-12 public schools, private schools, and homeschool associations throughout West Tennessee by developing and offering programs at the Farm that function as an extension of the classroom and offers hands-on, experiential experiences in STEM. The demand and support for these programs are great. We conservatively estimate this program will reach over 10,000 students each year.

We are currently seeking candidates to serve as the Director of this STEM education program. This position also will offer faculty status at the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture. This position will offer the successful candidate tremendous opportunities to build a STEM education program that is impactful and nationally recognized. Over the next 5-10 years, there will be great opportunity for the position to grow in scope, stature, and responsibility. The Director will have opportunities to interact routinely with high-level leaders in government, education, and private industry, while also working daily with teacher and students. Ultimately, we envision this position evolving into an administrative position, where the Director will supervise a large program with significant staff and budgetary resources.

This program is a partnership between the University of Tennessee and Hardeman County Schools. While the position is initially funded by a three-year contract from Hardeman County Schools, our expectation is this position is permanent and, again, has significant opportunity for career growth.

If you have questions about this position, please don't hesitate to contact either of us.

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## Director/Extension Assistant Professor – UT Extension – STEM Education



Full Time - This 12-month non-tenure track faculty position will provide overall leadership – including development, implementation, promotion, and evaluation – for a **STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) education program at Lone Oaks Farm**, a facility owned by the University of Tennessee. The ideal candidate will have high-level expertise in the areas of youth development, innovative and entrepreneurial approaches to education, 4-H structure and programs, and education in non-formal environments. The candidate should have a strong background in the sciences, with experience and ideas of how to use the environment and outdoors as an integrating context in STEM education. Specific duties include:

- Provide leadership for education programs that meet the needs of all eligible clientele regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion or veteran status.
- Develop and implement curricula and activities to advance STEM education at Lone Oaks Farm. This shall include day field trips for K-12 classes, as well as multi-day and overnight events.
- Promote and market STEM educational programs to area school districts on a fee-basis, with the goal of producing revenue that can be used to build and enhance the program.
- Develop a network of relationships with key stakeholders, organizations, and colleagues pertinent to the STEM education program at the Farm.
- Seek and secure significant extramural funding – including grants, fees, contracts, and gifts – to support the program, to support the program and the hire of additional support staff.
- Provide quarterly updates about the impact, progress, and challenges related to the STEM program.
- Develop and maintain expertise about issues important to STEM education.
- Assume other duties as assigned.

Required Qualifications:

- Terminal degree in Education or a STEM-based discipline.
- Strong background in education, with emphasis in the STEM arena.
- Demonstrated knowledge and experience with technology, including computer skills.
- Demonstrated ability to create fun, engaging learning environments.
- Record of success in garnering significant extramural funds to support education programs.
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively with parents, schools, and other stakeholders to support educational achievement.

Interested applicants should send inquiries to the chair of the search committee, Dr. Ben West (731-487-9812, [benwest@utk.edu](mailto:benwest@utk.edu)). **To apply, submit a letter of interest, CV, and the names and contact information for five professional references to [benwest@utk.edu](mailto:benwest@utk.edu).**

