AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Title: Economist

Department: Economic Analysis

Reports to: Chief Economist

Function:

Conduct research, policy analysis, presentations and commentaries on a wide variety of economic questions and issues of importance to farmers and ranchers, and the United States agricultural sector about commodity programs and domestic policy topics related to tax law and other priority issues set by the AFBF Board.

Specialization:

1. Be well versed in conducting analysis of economic implications of alternative commodity policies both at the sector and the farm level.
2. Be familiar with the data sets needed to analyze agricultural, tax law and domestic policy reform questions, and be able communicate results to a broad audience.
3. Ability to assist in the development of the Economic Analysis Department’s work plan for the following operational period.

Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Provide written economic policy analyses and commentaries in support of Farm Bureau policy activities for AFBF and state Farm Bureau staff, volunteer leaders and interested people outside Farm Bureau.
2. Ensure the organization has the latest agricultural research and analyses available and contribute to the ongoing education effort related to the effects of domestic policy changes.
3. Provide economic presentations to state Farm Bureau groups and other audiences explaining the economics of Farm Bureau policy positions.
4. Work with other Farm Bureau Departments in coordinating efforts on agricultural and domestic policy issues.
5. Represent Farm Bureau with outside groups, at professional and semi-professional economic meetings and other functions to explain the economic impacts of Farm Bureau policy positions and gain knowledge about policy issues.
6. Respond to media and other inquiries concerning the economic aspects of Farm Bureau policy work.
7. Work with various AFBF task forces, study groups, staff committees, working groups and AFBF meeting activities to provide economic input.
8. Work with outside economic consultants on a regular basis and on special economic research projects in support of Farm Bureau policies.
9. Arrange conferences and meetings on economic policy issues for state Farm Bureau staff and volunteer leaders.
10. Maintain professional competence by attending and participating in professional meetings, seminars and other activities to improve individual skills and abilities.

Authority:

1. In cooperation with the Chief Economist, develop a work schedule for research and analyses on domestic policy problems and issues.
2. Communicate research findings and analyses after discussion and coordination with the Chief Economist using methods such as email, presentations, podcasts, webinars, and video conference.
3. Carry out travel, memberships, conferences and special projects within the budget established for the team.

Relationships:

Economists work directly with a wide range of AFBF staff, state Farm Bureau staff, state Farm Bureau volunteer leaders, other industry leaders, government officials, members of the media and individuals interested in agricultural policy issues.

Minimum Requirements:

Masters Degree in Agricultural Economics or related field. Proficient in Microsoft Outlook, Excel, PowerPoint. Experience with statistical analysis packages such as Statpac, Simetar, SAS, or Stata is preferred.

Travel:

Individual in this position should expect to spend 15-20% of their time traveling.

Salary:

Commensurate with experience and in line with AFBF compensation schedules.

If you are interested in this position, please submit résumé to Stefphanie Gambrell, Human Resources Generalist, American Farm Bureau Federation, 600 Maryland Avenue SW, Suite 1000W, Washington, DC 20024. Electronic applications will be accepted at sgambrell@aaic.com. The deadline for applications is Tuesday, August 31, 2010 or until the position is filled, whichever is later.