

Employment Opportunity



Established in 1877, the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) promotes the economic growth and development of Virginia agriculture, provides consumer protection and encourages environmental stewardship.

Relief Commodity Grader (Agricultural Specialist IV, Pay Band 4)

#R1014 – Accomack

The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is seeking a full-time day/night shift Relief Poultry and Potato Grader for Accomack County and surrounding areas. This position will perform technical grading/inspections on poultry and potato products to determine appropriate USDA grades. Duties include monitoring commercial and government specifications to ensure plant and grower compliance with formulation and processing standards as specified by various processing contracts; ensuring maintenance of sanitation standards; training and monitoring the work of authorized plant graders; and signing off on all documentation that pertains to grading and inspection functions. This position is restricted and paid for with non-general funds generated by assessing user fees for grading services requested by industry.

This position requires day, evening, night, weekend and holiday work depending on plant and staffing needs.

QUALIFICATIONS: Working knowledge of agricultural practices is beneficial particularly if related to the poultry and potato industries; however, if you have the ability to be trained on federal and state regulations and are able to meet the conditions of employment as noted below, then this knowledge is not specifically necessary as training will be provided. Other qualifications include effective customer service, oral and written communication, organizational, math and computer skills. Ability to communicate effectively with plant and agency management; to work with limited supervision; and to train and monitor plant personnel. Demonstrated ability to interpret and apply regulations. H.S. Diploma/GED required. **Prefer:** Related education, training or work experience or background in poultry production, potato processes or grading and in working with limited supervision. An equivalent combination of training and experience indicating possession of the preceding knowledge, skills and abilities may substitute for this education and experience. Training is provided.

Conditions of Employment: Must have or be able to obtain USDA Poultry and Potato Grading Licenses for grading both products as issued by the USDA after completing a minimum of 160 hours of supervised training. Must be available to meet the physical demands of the position which includes working in an environment that has rapid temperature changes, wet and slippery floors, high noise levels, and lifting up to 50 pounds on a regular basis. Must be able to temporarily work in different plants in emergency situations. Must have (or be eligible for) and maintain a valid driver's license and have a driving record that reflects a sense of responsibility for highway safety.

The final candidate must be eligible to meet the Federal Office of Field Operations Assignment Restrictions Directive (FSIS Directive 4735.9) regarding assignment restrictions and family or personal relationships as well as the one-year restriction for candidates who previously worked for a business under FSIS inspection. The final candidate must successfully complete a fingerprint-based criminal background check. **Hiring Salary Range: \$37,042 - \$41,764 annually. Excellent State Benefits.**

To be considered for this position, you must apply online at <https://virginiajobs.peopleadmin.com/> by 11:59 PM EST/EDT on **May 26, 2022**. For more information or assistance, you may contact the Human Resources Office, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, 102 Governor Street, Richmond, VA 23219; Telephone: (804) 371-8066; TDD/TTY: VA Relay 711 or 800-828-1120; E-mail hr.vdacs@vdacs.virginia.gov. VDACS is dedicated to recruiting, supporting, and maintaining a competent and diverse workforce.

Quality Customer Service: A VDACS Commitment

Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Human Resource Office, Oliver Hill Building, 102 Governor Street, Richmond, VA 23219

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Potato Inspectors (Seasonal) Agricultural Specialist III, Pay Band 3

Eastern Shore (Accomack, Northampton)

The Virginia Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, Division of Commodity Services, seeks personnel to certify potatoes throughout locations on the Eastern Shore (Accomack and Northampton Counties). Employment will last approximately 4 to 7 weeks during the summer. Personnel will receive classroom instruction and/or on-the-job training. Duties performed will be in the area of grading and certifying potatoes for defects, size, cleanliness and identification of other requirements of the U.S. Grade. Issue certificates stating compliance with export requirements, truck cleanliness and grade requirements.

QUALIFICATIONS: Demonstrated ability to comprehend, analyze and interpret rules, regulations and/or procedures; prepare written documents/reports; negotiate or trouble-shoot complex issues; and effectively communicate orally with individuals and groups. The successful candidates must be able to work flexible hours, overtime, holidays, weekends, etc. Physical ability to perform work task requiring lifting of approximately 25 lbs. and standing for long periods of time while enduring high summer temperatures and the ability to visually inspect product. These positions work outdoors and around dust and machinery. Candidates must be able to follow strict safety guidelines. The selected individuals will receive a USDA license upon the successful completion of training. Must have reliable transportation to work. High school diploma or GED is required. Some relevant college course work or the equivalent work experience in an agriculture related environment is preferred.

Hiring Pay: \$13.63 per hour with the potential opportunity to earn overtime. Mileage driven while performing official duties will be reimbursed at the prevailing allowable rate. The hourly rate may be higher if an applicant has recent experience in the potato industry and a related license.

These are hourly positions limited to 1500 hours per year and do not include state benefits. Employment will last approximately 4 to 7 weeks during the summer.

To be considered for this position, you must apply online at <https://virginiajobs.peopleadmin.com/> by 11:59 PM EST/EDT on **May 26, 2022**. For more information or assistance, you may contact the Human Resources Office, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, 102 Governor Street, Richmond, VA 23219; Telephone: (804) 371-8066; TDD/TTY: VA Relay 711 or 800-828-1120; E-mail hr.vdacs@vdaes.virginia.gov. VDACS is dedicated to recruiting, supporting, and maintaining a competent and diverse workforce.

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