Prospective Postdoctoral Scholar Information

Message from the Dean

The ISU Graduate College is committed to providing an outstanding postdoctoral experience by providing services that enhance the postdoctoral experience and encourage better scholarship. The ISU Graduate College is the administrative home for Postdoctoral Scholars since they are receiving additional training and acquiring the additional skill sets to serve them in preparation for independent careers.

Benefits

Iowa State provides a competitive and comprehensive benefits package and services for postdocs that includes: Health, Prescription Drug, Dental, Vision, Vacation, Sick-Leave, Optional Investment Savings, and Optional Life Insurance.

Bridge Funding: Arrival of New Child

Starting July 1, 2013, Graduate assistants, Post Docs, and Pre Docs may request up to six weeks of funding for the arrival of a new child.

Personal and Family Resources: Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

The EAP is a 24/7 direct line to free, confidential and professional help when you need it. Services are provided to ISU employees, family members living in your home, and legal dependents who may live elsewhere. It includes: In-Person Counseling Appointments (3/year), Life Coaching, Legal Services, Financial Consultation, Eldercare Resources, Real Life Solutions Employee Newsletter, and Better Living Web Resource. [EAP Brochure]

Professional Development

Iowa State supports leadership and professional development by offering numerous on campus and online resources and opportunities at the university level and through the coordination efforts of the Graduate College.

- Workshop Calendar - Focused Categories: Teaching, Research, Communication, Career, and Wellness.

Graduate College Career Development Services: Job Strategies, Cover Letters, CV’s, Interview Skills, Networking – CyHire, LinkedIn. Contact: Karin Lawton-Dunn, Coordinator at kldunn@iastate.edu

- Individual Development Plan (IDP): It will help you set a course for your appointment that will match your skills to your career ambitions.

Writing Groups: Peer support and accountability.

- Center for Communication Excellence: Provides research writing workshops and seminar series using specialized writing software.
Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT), Preparing Future Faculty (PFF), and SP@ISU – Strengthening the Professoriate.

Graduate College Emerging Leaders Academy: Build collaborations, work across disciplines, and forge stronger solutions from diverse perspectives.

ISU PDA - Postdoctoral Association: Professional setting, guest speakers, great peer connections and discussions at social gatherings every month.

National Professional Organizations free institutional membership with ISU email address: National Postdoctoral Association (NPA), National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity (NCFDD), and Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning (CIRTL) Network.

About Iowa State and Ames

Iowa State University, founded in 1856, became a land grant institution in 1898, cultivates an inclusive and welcoming environment on campus and in the local community. ISU is proud to have a beautiful campus year round located in Ames, Iowa. About ISU

ISU has been a member of the Association of American Universities (AAU) since 1958. Membership in the association is by invitation only. AAU member universities are on the leading edge of innovation, scholarship, and solutions that contribute to the nation's economy, security, and well-being. The 60 AAU universities in the United States award nearly one-half of all U.S. doctoral degrees and 55 percent of those in the sciences and engineering.

Iowa State has an impressive research record of innovation and discovery. Here are some helpful sites for an introduction: Research overview, Office of the Vice President for Research, ISU Research Park, along with Industry Relations and Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer.

Ames has a small town feel with bigger city conveniences, cultural events, and a great place to raise children. Ames is centrally located in the state, 30-minutes north of Des Moines; the state capital, and three-hours from Kansas City, Missouri, Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Omaha, Nebraska. Life in Ames