



**Crop Protection Genetics Research Technician**  
**Salina, KS**  
**Full Time**

**Position Summary**

The Land Institute is looking for a creative, collaborative Crop Protection Genetics Research Technician to support and advance efforts to breed for disease resistance, identify, and manage diseases in perennial grain crops.

The Crop Protection Genetics Research Technician will join an innovative team whose research seeks to understand and control diseases of perennial crops in an ecologically sustainable way. The technician will be based in Salina, Kansas, and will be mentored and supervised by The Land Institute's Crop Protection Genetics researcher.

**Position Responsibilities**

- Support program lead in designing and implementing new research projects and maintaining collaborative partnerships with researchers at TLI and other institutions, farmers, and civic scientists
- Plant, collect data, rate disease, harvest, and thresh samples for field and greenhouse experiments
- Assist with design and maintenance of field and greenhouse trials
- Travel to offsite locations for data and sample collection
- Use databases and assist with organization of sample inventory
- Assist with statistical analysis of research experiments
- Culture plant pathogenic organisms, assist with identification, and make microscopic observations
- Extract DNA, perform ELISA and PCR assays
- Correspond with collaborators to send samples and information
- Assist with purchasing supplies and maintaining budget records
- Assist with The Land Institute's yearly Prairie Festival event

**Supervisory Responsibilities**

- Supervise interns, research assistants, and volunteers
- Assist with mentorship of research residents and graduate students

### **Additional Opportunities**

- Engage with civic science participants and farmers
- Engage with visitors by leading guided tours and participating in community and scientific outreach or presentations
- Attend conferences
- Co-author scientific research publications

### **Location**

This position will be based at The Land Institute's main campus in Salina, Kansas.

### **Required Qualifications**

- Master's degree in a natural research field or a Bachelor's degree with equivalent professional or research experience
- Excellent communication, organization, and collaboration skills
- Ability to work in adverse weather conditions: sun, wind, heat, etc.
- Driver's license or willingness to obtain a license
- US citizen, legal resident, or have a current work visa

### **Preferred Qualifications**

- Experience in plant pathology, plant breeding, DNA sequence analysis, or genetics
- Experience in agriculture and working with plants
- Experience managing qualitative and quantitative data
- Strong knowledge and experience in statistical analysis

### **About the Organization**

Founded in 1976, The Land Institute is a non-profit organization working to develop diverse, perennial grain agroecosystems that produce ample food while achieving levels of ecosystem functions needed to make human life sustainable. The agriculture we seek equitably provides for human needs within ecological limits over the long term. The Land Institute's core activity is research to create an ensemble of perennial cereal, legume, and oilseed crops and cropping systems that nourish people and that build soil, use water more efficiently, reduce reliance on inputs, and sequester carbon.

Crop Protection Genetics is one of the The Land Institute's Ecological Intensification research programs which advance the viability of perennial grain crops by understanding and promoting ecological processes to sustain productivity in place of purchased inputs. The Crop Protection Genetics program researches and controls diseases of newly domesticated and bred perennial grain crops, working with other programs to advance crops, provide educational materials, and promote collaborative partnerships.

For more information, please visit [www.landinstitute.org](http://www.landinstitute.org).

**Compensation**

The Land Institute offers an excellent benefits package and a competitive salary that is commensurate with experience. Depending upon qualifications and experience, salary for this position is likely to be in the range of \$35,000-52,000.

**To Apply**

To be considered for this position, interested applicants should submit a resume or CV, cover letter, and contact information for three references to [careers@landinstitute.org](mailto:careers@landinstitute.org). Review of applications will begin March 26, 2021. Position will remain open until filled.

*The Land Institute is an equal opportunity employer and actively encourages applications from women and people of all ethnic and national origins and sexual orientations.*