



Postdoctoral Research Associate Position – Artifact Analyst

NAGPRA Office

Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation (OVCRI)

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

NAGPRA stands for the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, which was established in 1990. It is fundamentally human rights legislation, and is in place to protect the cultural and biological remains of Native Americans and their ancestors. NAGPRA was enacted to outline a requirement and process for museums and federal agencies to return certain Native American cultural items (including human remains) to lineal descendants, culturally affiliated Indian tribes, or Native Hawaiian organizations. In 2020, the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign(<https://illinois.edu/>) established a NAGPRA Office(<https://nagpra.illinois.edu>). Campus NAGPRA compliance is the responsibility of the NAGPRA Program Officer.

The University's NAGPRA Office is recruiting a qualified Postdoctoral Researcher to be responsible for the laboratory identification, documentation, and interpretation of funerary and other objects held within the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign collections pertinent to compliance with NAGPRA. This will also involve the collection and compilation of records related to those collections; assisting with updating existing collection inventory; and supervising undergraduate student employees. The postdoctoral position is full-time, 2-year duration with possibility of annual extensions, contingent upon performance and funding.



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Summary: A postdoctoral researcher with a strong background in Anthropology or Museum Studies is sought to join a dynamic team of researchers. The successful candidate will conduct laboratory documentation of funerary and other objects from archaeological contexts held in UIUC collections that fall under NAGPRA and ensure all activities are completed compliance with applicable university policies, as well as state and federal laws. Responsibilities also include compilation of existing records and publications related to collection needed for the inventory process; working with the team to consult with concerned parties that include federally recognized Indian tribes, local/state/federal agencies, and kin relations; and preparing required documentation to meet federal and state standards. Supervisory duties of hourly staff involve task assignment, monitoring work performance, and providing feedback as needed.



Qualifications: The successful postdoctoral candidate will have a Ph.D. in Anthropology, Museum Studies, or related field. Minimum of 2 years of laboratory and/or field experience in the archaeology or precontact history of the American Midwest. Familiarity with appropriate storage and handling of museum and/or archaeological collections. Candidates should also have excellent written and verbal communication skills, sound judgment, and demonstrated ability to perform with a professional demeanor in a diverse and fast-paced work environment consisting of multiple and changing priorities, under stringent deadlines. Proficiency in spoken/written English is mandatory. Experience with NAGPRA compliance or other consultation work with Native nations and/or research experience in the American Bottom and Illinois River Valley regions of the American Midwest is preferred. Candidates will be considered if graduation with a Ph.D. is expected by the targeted starting date.

Starting Date: An ideal starting date is as soon as possible after the closing date. The position will remain open until filled.

The appointment is renewed annually, contingent upon performance and funding availability. Salary is competitive and commensurate with experience in relevant research.

Application Process: To ensure full consideration, qualified candidates must send a cover letter, CV, and contact information of three references via email to kday1@illinois.edu **no later than November 1, 2021**. All requested information must be submitted to the above email in order for your application to be considered. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. Qualified applicants will be immediately reviewed upon receiving the application while the search may continue until the position is filled. Questions related to the position should be addressed to klkrupa@illinois.edu.

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) is a world leader in research, teaching and public engagement, distinguished by the breadth of its programs, broad academic excellence, and internationally renowned faculty and alumni. Illinois serves the world by creating knowledge, preparing students for lives of impact, and finding solutions to critical societal needs.

The University of Illinois conducts criminal background checks on all job candidates upon acceptance of a contingent offer. Convictions are not a bar to employment. As a qualifying federal contractor, the University of Illinois System [uses E-Verify](#) to verify [employment eligibility](#). The University of Illinois System requires candidates selected for hire to disclose any documented finding of sexual misconduct or sexual harassment and to authorize inquiries to current and former employers regarding findings of sexual misconduct or sexual harassment. For more information, visit [Policy on Consideration of Sexual Misconduct in Prior Employment](#). As a qualifying federal contractor, the University of Illinois System [uses E-Verify](#) to verify [employment eligibility](#).

The University of Illinois is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action employer. Minorities, women, veterans and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply. For more information, visit <http://go.illinois.edu/EEO>.