**Ohio Poultry Association**

**Bird Health Programs Manager**

The Ohio Poultry Association (OPA) is a dynamic organization representing Ohio’s egg, turkey and chicken farms, processing and allied industries. Caring for consumers and Ohio poultry farms by providing leadership to responsibly produce safe, affordable, and wholesome food is our prime mission. An integral part of our mission is providing for bird health programs. OPA is seeking a qualified individual who is energetic and hard working to join our Bird Health team.

**Position Summary:**

The Bird Health Programs Manager, working cooperatively with the Director of Bird Health Programs, is responsible for the management and direction of all avian health programs. These programs include the Ohio National Poultry Improvement Plan (Official State Agency) and egg quality assurance programs.

**Working Relationships:**

OPA is a small, but vibrant office – a true team environment. This position reports directly to the Director of Bird Health Programs and ultimately to the OPA Executive Vice President. The position is based in Columbus, Ohio. In state and out of state travel are required.

**Duties** (in cooperation with Director of Bird Health Programs)**:**

**NPIP ·** OPA is the Ohio Official State Agency for the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP). This is an official USDA program with industry support and leadership. USDA provides oversight and national leadership and staff. Also work closely with the Ohio Department of Agriculture and the Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory. NPIP duties include, but are not limited to:

Commercial and mail-order hatchery oversight – flock qualification, hatchery audits and inspections, sampling and testing protocol.

Monitor outreach and surveillance programs to upland gamebird, exhibition, and backyard flock owners. Oversee annual flock qualifications, sampling and testing protocol. Manage official Ohio NPIP Authorized Agents to implement the program.

Attend local, state and national NPIP, USDA, ODA and OPA meetings as required. Regular producer/flock visits will be required, which will include active sample collection and testing. Conduct poultry producer and NPIP member meetings as required. Provide for annual Pullorum tester training class.

Maintain all NPIP record databases. Coordinate processing of NPIP forms and paperwork. Complete annual required reports. Process laboratory and NPIP billing.

Manage OPA cooperative agreements with USDA and other funding sources. Prepare applications, quarterly and yearly reports.

Manage Ohio’s Emergency Poultry Disease Management Committee. Arrange for annual meeting. Serve as liaison for the poultry industry.

**Egg Quality Programs –** OPA administers the Ohio Egg Quality Assurance Program (OEQAP) and assists members with maintaining records for the Federal Egg Safety Rule.

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Maintain OEQAP databases. Distribute test results to producers. Serve as a liaison between producers and the official laboratory and state/federal agencies.

**Other Duties –**

Coordinate Bird Health Program communication and outreach. Increase participation.

 Maintain OPA inventory of bird health program equipment and supplies.

Assist OPA staff on industry-wide events, programs and projects.

Other duties as assigned or appropriate.

**Qualifications,** **Skills, Abilities and Personal Characteristics:**

Minimum Bachelor of Science in Animal Sciences or Poultry Science, or equivalent. Five years experience in poultry or similar agriculture enterprise. It is recommended the applicant have a working knowledge of the NPIP and general poultry industry.

 Strong leadership and management skills. Ability and experience in successfully supervising and directing people and their work. Ability to motivate and lead. Ability to work successfully with all levels of employees and internal groups/teams, while providing leadership and coaching as appropriate and necessary.
Ability to think and act strategically with the capacity for growth in strategic thinking ability. Strong problem-solving skills, and proven project management and continuous improvement experience and coordination of multiple projects simultaneously.
Open and direct communicator; excellent verbal and written communication skills.
Focus on accuracy and detail.

Sound judgment and unwavering ethics.
Self-motivation, independent work habits

Strong computer skills.

**How to apply:**

If you are interested and feel you meet the qualifications for this opportunity, submit your resume, cover letter and references for consideration to jchakeres@ohiopoultry.org.

Jim Chakeres, Executive Vice President

Ohio Poultry Association

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Columbus OH 43229

**The Ohio Poultry Association is an Equal Opportunity Employer**