



September 10, 2018

Applications are now being accepted for the Vita Plus Dairy Nutrition and Management Fellowship at Michigan State University.

As the dairies in our market area get more sophisticated, the required skills to service their needs as a nutritional consultant increase as well. Our field nutritionists are highly skilled and technologically savvy – built greatly on experience. However, the challenge for a new college graduate to step into the role of dairy nutritionist and farm consultant is substantial. Many graduates welcome additional training after completing a bachelor's degree to prepare them for future employment in a dairy nutritionist and consultant role. However, most graduate student funding available within a university system are in support of a focused research program.

There is an option at Michigan State University to receive a master's degree in course. In this program, the research component is minimized in exchange for more advanced instruction. However, this option is rarely used because there is not regular funding to support the student. Vita Plus sees this as an avenue to train more students for the jobs in our industry. Our fellowship not only financially supports a student interested in this program, but also offers needed field and practical experience to balance the class work and normal student and advisor interactions.

Complete fellowship details are listed on the next page. We are now recruiting a student for this Michigan State University program to start in the fall of 2019. The student will attend classes at Michigan State for three semesters and gain industry experience with Vita Plus on approximately a 35% full-time equivalency basis during the 16-month period. The student will also supervise a practical field research project.

Applications must be submitted before January 4, 2019. The selection will be made shortly thereafter.

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Vita Plus Dairy Nutrition and Management Fellowship

**Michigan State University, Department of Animal Science
with Dr. Adam Lock, Associate Professor**

Objective: To develop a student for a career in dairy nutrition and management consulting. This is an advanced degree path with on-farm, research, feed facility, and production experience. The Fellowship is funded through a graduate Dairy Nutrition Fellowship from Vita Plus.

Fellowship Details

- Selection:** The student will be selected by Vita Plus and Dr. Adam Lock.
- Requirements:** Student is expected to complete a Plan B, M.S. degree in course through the Department of Animal Science at Michigan State University. Must have a B.S. in a related field from an accredited university as well as meet the entrance requirements to enter a master's program at Michigan State University. The Plan B Master of Science Program at Michigan State University consists of course work, a research project without a thesis, and a final examination covering course work and the research project.
- Duration:** Starts fall semester of 2019 and completes after the fall semester of 2020. This amounts to an average of eight course credits per semester plus a total of six research credits.
- Internship/Tuition:** Paid through Michigan State University via the Dairy Nutrition Fellowship set up with Dr. Lock and Vita Plus.
- Industry Experience:** Student will be expected to work with Vita Plus and its staff over the duration of the fellowship for approximately 35% of the time. Activities include but not limited to: Vita Plus personal growth training, Tri-State Nutrition conference, Vita Plus summer dairy workshop, Dairy Technology Networking sessions (DTN's), on-farm evaluations, Dairy Ration Runner's sessions, Dairy Summit.
- Research:** An on-farm research project will be required. To be performed at either the university dairy research facility or an off-campus dairy operation.

Application Deadline: January 4, 2019

For Further Information:

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Vita Plus Corporation is an employee-owned company headquartered in Madison, Wisconsin. Vita Plus has been serving livestock producers since 1948. More than just a feed supplier, Vita Plus consultants offer the latest cutting-edge technology, nutrition and management information. For more information about the organization, call 1-800-362-8334 or go online at www.vitaplus.com.