

Technicians – massasauga rattlesnake ecology

Agency: Grand Valley State University

Location: Michigan

Salary: \$1,600 per month

Start date: 5/1/2019

Last date to apply: 1/15/2019

Website: <https://moorejen4.wixsite.com/moorelab>

Description: Dr. Jennifer Moore and Dr. Paul Keenlance at Grand Valley State University are hiring 2-4 seasonal technicians to assist graduate students with field surveys for eastern massasauga rattlesnakes. Survey crews will travel throughout the Lower Peninsula and accommodations will range from tent camping, to bunkhouses, or hotels. There is a possibility that housing can be provided during days off. The position will require visual surveys in hot and wet field conditions, and safely handling venomous snakes. This work supports a broader U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service funded project aimed at determining presence-absence of massasauga populations throughout Michigan, collecting information on microhabitat and prey availability, and understanding the impacts of snake fungal disease. Positions will run through mid-August.

Qualifications: Applicants with a background in field herpetology and snake handling are strong candidates, but all applicants will be considered. The ideal applicant has strong field and navigational skills, plant identification skills (or the ability to key out plants), a positive attitude, the ability to work in a team or independently, and a strong work ethic. The candidates must be responsible, reliable, detail-oriented, safe, careful, and have excellent communication skills. The ability to collect high-quality, accurate data in the field is a must. Applicants should have basic competency using a GPS/maps to locate field sites and record waypoints. Hours will depend on survey conditions, some weeks will be more or less than 40 hours, including weekends. Well-qualified applicants will have field experience in herpetology, wildlife biology or management, natural resource management, or zoology. A valid driver's license is required.

Interested applicants should send a resume, cover letter, unofficial transcripts, and names of three references to Jennifer Moore (moorejen@gvsu.edu). Reference 'EMR technician' in the subject line.