PHD POSITION AVAILABLE – PALEOECOLOGY – UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

The Spanbauer Lab at the University of Kentucky is recruiting a graduate student at the PhD level.

Our lab is seeking a new member to conduct research on multiple federally funded projects that focus on paleoenvironmental reconstructions of aquatic ecosystems in the tropics and subtropics. Research in the Spanbauer Lab focuses on how aquatic biodiversity and ecosystem function is impacted by global environmental change from diurnal to millennial time scales. The successful candidate will develop datasets using a combination of ancient and modern environmental DNA combined with other biological and/or chemical proxies recovered from aquatic ecosystems. Other duties will include processing large datasets, mentoring undergraduate students, preparing manuscripts for publication, and delivering presentations at scientific meetings.

Qualification for graduate positions: M.S.in geology, ecology, or a related field. Ideally applicants should have a background and/or familiarity with limnogeology and molecular biology or a demonstrated enthusiasm to immerse themselves in these areas. For other graduate admission requirements of the Department of Earth & Environmental Sciences at the University of Kentucky, please see: https://ees.as.uky.edu/graduate-program

Start date: August 2027

Contact/Email: Please send a single PDF that includes a cover letter detailing your interests and your relevant background experience, a CV, names and contact information for three references to Trisha Spanbauer (trisha.spanbauer@uky.edu) with the subject line '2027 Lab Recruitment'. Materials sent by Jan 15, 2026, will receive full consideration. Ultimately, successful candidates will be encouraged to apply to the department.

Web link: www.trishaspanbauer.com