

Classified Position Request Form

Instructions: Complete one form for each classified position requested

- New Position (not in last year's budget)
- Replacement Position (in last year's budget)
- Conversion Position (from grant to general funds not in last year's budget)
- Formerly Eliminated Position (not in last year's budget)

Title of Position Requested: Agriculture Farm Lab Technician

Program/Department/Area: Agriculture

Number of Hours per Week: 40

Number of Months per Year: 12

Brief Abstract: (How does position impact present area status, affect workload reduction, impact students or provide support/services?)

Our use of the lab has grown with the addition of more plant science and animal science sections plus the addition of the new Mechanized Agriculture program and the pending Food Science program. We need a technician to manage pest control, irrigation, and fertilization of crops growing on the farm that are not part of student projects, to order and purchase materials for the farm, do minor repairs and maintenance of machinery at the farm, and to supervise work study and work experience students at the farm. Having a person in this position would allow the instructors who use the farm more time to concentrate their efforts on teaching the required course objectives and SLOs rather than spending time simply maintaining the farm.

Rationale and Applicability to College Strategic Goals:

- **The budget decision will consider the needs of a learning environment that will promote student success in our classrooms and study-research spaces such as a well-maintained lab space.**
- **Strategic Goal 1: A commitment to provide a holistic education that develops curiosity, inquiry, and empowered learners. Working on routine farm maintenance does not accomplish this goal.**
- **Strategic Goal 3: Engage in a broad effort to provide a safe and state-of-the-art learning environment.**

Impact on College/District if position is not filled: (Include how having the position or not having the position impacts FTES, services to students.)

1) Not having the position reduces FTES by reducing recruitment to the program. We compete with other colleges and even universities in the southern San Joaquin valley. All other institutions of higher education that have agriculture programs have well maintained and larger farm labs with staff assigned at least part-time (Reedley, COS, UC Fresno).

2) Plant Science, Animal Science, Forestry, and Mech Ag students all use the Ag Farm Lab. The numbers of those students and sections have grown at least 25% in the last three years (2017 IRP Data). The new AS-Ts and their C-IDs demand that we have field labs. Those labs require well-maintained farm equipment, buildings, and fields.

Total Cost:

Salary \$ _____
Benefits \$ _____
Computer/office space etc. \$ _____
Total Amount: \$ _____