

MS and PhD Graduate Assistantship Wheat Breeding and Genetics

*Department of Crop and Soil Sciences
Washington State University, Pullman*

Description of research opportunity:

The Wheat Breeding and Genetics programs at Washington State University and the USDA-ARS are recruiting motivated graduate students to help design, complete, and communicate original research on genetics of resistance to diseases/pests, grain quality, and tolerance to abiotic stresses. The research assistants will conduct experiments to identify and genetically characterize sources of resistance/tolerance to these yield-limiting and/or quality factors; a combination of advanced molecular biology/genetics laboratory techniques, field-based evaluations, and plant physiology and pathology techniques are developed or employed to meet research goals. Recent research topics have included high-throughput phenotyping as it relates to selecting in a breeding program, genomic selection methodologies, genetic dissection of pre-harvest sprouting and late-maturity alpha-amylase, and QTL analysis for stripe rust and Hessian fly resistance.

Contact: Dr. Arron Carter (Winter Wheat Breeding and Genetics; ahcarter@wsu.edu); Dr. Michael Pumphrey (Spring Wheat Breeding and Genetics; m.pumphrey@wsu.edu); or Dr. Kim Garland-Campbell (USDA Wheat Breeding and Genetics; Kim.garland-campbell@usda.gov)

Apply: Interested persons should apply to the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences (CSS). Please visit CSS at <http://css.wsu.edu>. The priority application deadline for Fall 2020 entry is January 10, 2020.

Assistantship Details: Graduate assistantships (research and teaching) are formal half-time, academic-year appointments accompanied by a summer stipend, with annual compensation of \$22,572 (MS) or \$23,754 (PhD). Graduate assistants also receive tuition waivers, as well as comprehensive health (medical/dental) insurance, and are eligible for additional support through scholarships, fellowships and travel grant awards.

Qualifying recruits may be nominated by the program director for the **prestigious ARCS fellowship** (seattlearcsfoundation.org), which provides \$17,500 in addition to the research assistantship.

