Program: The USMARC Undergraduate Research Internship Program provides an opportunity for college students interested in a possible research career in animal agriculture to receive cutting edge research experience while under the mentorship of established Agricultural Research Service (ARS) scientists. Students will apply for a specific research project by selecting from abstracts that describe available projects within each Research Unit. In addition to their research project, students will participate in formal weekly discussions, which will provide the opportunity to share their experiences with their peers and other research scientists at the Center.

Facilities: The USMARC is a world-renowned animal research facility within the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), the primary research agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The Mission of the USMARC is to develop scientific information and new technology to solve high priority problems for the U.S. Beef, Swine, and Sheep Industries. The Center is located in South Central Nebraska on 35,000 acres. Research approaches involve multidisciplinary teams consisting of 53 scientists and post-docs as well as 200 supporting personnel with emphasis on both short-term and long-term solutions to animal production and product quality. About 50 percent of the research effort focuses on beef cattle, 30 percent on swine, and 20 percent with sheep. The Center is organized into four Research Units.

Benefits:
- Opportunity to work with world-renowned animal research scientists
- A salary of at least $11.30 per hour plus earned leave benefits
- Hands-on experience in diverse areas of animal science
- Experience as a federal employee within the USDA
- Idyllic prairie setting with abundant meat animal resources (beef cattle, sheep, and swine) on a 35,000 acre campus

Eligibility: To qualify for this program students must:
- Be currently enrolled at a college or university
- Have completed their sophomore year by start of employment
- Have a minimum GPA of 3.0
- Have a university faculty advisor for the program

Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

USDA/ARS is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
Application packages must be postmarked by February 5, 2018 or emailed to Janel.nierman@ars.usda.gov by Feb. 9, 2018 (PDF format only). If material is missing from the application package, it will not be referred for consideration. Letters of recommendation must be sent directly from your Faculty Advisor or Professor to Janel Nierman for inclusion in your application material.

Selections will be made by March 16, 2018.

The educational program will run June 4, 2017 through July 27, 2018. Employment is available beginning May 1, 2018, up to August 31, 2018, if the additional time is needed for the respective abstract projects. Enter on duty dates and end dates can be discussed following the selection and approval for employment.

To request additional program information contact:

Janel Nierman
Secretary to the Center Director
U.S. Meat Animal Research Center
P.O. Box 166
Clay Center, NE 68933
(402) 762-4110
janel.nierman@ars.usda.gov