

**Assistant Professor in Environmental Chemistry**

The Department of Environmental Sciences at the University of California invites applicants for a full-time Assistant Professor in Environmental Chemistry to conduct applied research for the Dr. Jiri Smunek's Lab in Riverside, CA. This position will start on September 1, 2026. The purpose of this position will investigate fate and transport of chemicals in soil and water to assess their effects on environmental health. The final candidate will The faculty member is expected to conduct laboratory, field, and/or model-based research to understand chemical behavior, determine environmental risks, and develop sustainable mitigation strategies. While all areas of environmental chemistry will be considered, preference will be given to applicants with training and interests in legacy and emerging organic contaminants, particularly those with implications for agricultural soils and food-producing systems. Potential research areas may include identification and analysis of emerging contaminants (e.g., PFAS) and agrochemicals (e.g., pesticides) in environmental media, determining mechanisms of transformation and transport, and characterizing bioaccumulation and non-target exposure of such contaminants. Candidates should demonstrate potential in supporting a research program in environmental chemistry with competitive funding sources such as state and federal agencies or foundations.

**Teaching:** The faculty member is expected to contribute to teaching undergraduate and graduate courses related to Environmental Chemistry and Ecotoxicology.

The UC salary consists of a base pay of \$80,800 - \$104,700 for Assistant Professors and additional off-scale to be commensurate with market value, qualifications and experiences. The off-scale portion of the salary will be maintained as long as satisfactory academic progress is made. Additionally, the off-scale will be maintained subject to market adjustments to the UC salary scale.

Basic qualifications for this position that must be met by the date of application include: A PhD in Environmental Chemistry, Environmental Toxicology, Soil Sciences, Environmental Science, Environmental Engineering, or a closely related field is required. Demonstrated excellence at job specific skills, including teaching experience.

Preferred qualifications for this position include: Demonstration of potential for securing competitive funding at the federal-level. Strong track record of high-quality publications.

UCR is a world-class research university with an exceptionally diverse undergraduate student body. Its mission is explicitly linked to providing routes to educational success for underrepresented and first-generation college students. A commitment to this mission is a preferred qualification.

Advancement through the Assistant ranks at the University of California is through a series of structured, merit-based evaluations, occurring every 2-3 “For advancement information for Lecturers, please refer to the Contract for the Lecturers Unit (IX) between the University of California and the American Federation of Teachers: <https://ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/labor/bargaining-units/ix/contract.html>.”]

**To apply:** submit Curriculum Vitae, Cover Letter, Statement of Research and Statement of Teaching to <https://aprecruit.ucr.edu/apply/JPF02185>. Review of applications will commence on January 1, 2026, and proceed until position is filled. For full consideration, applicants should submit their complete applications prior to the above date.

For more information about this position, please contact Jiri Simunek, Chair of the Search Committee, Department of Environmental Sciences, at [jiri.simunek@ucr.edu](mailto:jiri.simunek@ucr.edu). For questions on application procedures and requirements, please contact Mrs. Naudia Samuels Johnson, Academic Personnel, at [naudia.samuelsjohnson@ucr.edu](mailto:naudia.samuelsjohnson@ucr.edu).

The University of California, Riverside is a world-class research university with an exceptionally diverse undergraduate student body. UCR is a member institution of the American Association of Universities (AAU) as well as the Alliance of Hispanic Serving Research Universities (HRSU). Its mission is explicitly linked to providing routes to educational success for underrepresented and first-generation college students. A commitment to this mission is a preferred qualification.

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age or protected veteran status. For the University of California’s Affirmative Action Policy please visit: <https://policy.ucop.edu/doc/4010393/PPSM-20>. For the University of California’s Anti-Discrimination Policy, please visit: <https://policy.ucop.edu/doc/1001004/Anti-Discrimination>.”

**University of California COVID-19 Vaccination Program Policy:** As a University employee, you will be required to comply with all applicable University policies and/or collective bargaining agreements, as may be amended from time to time. Federal, state, or local government directives may impose additional requirements.