Position #0001-4116
Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS)  Extension Agent I, II, or III
Polk County (South Central District)  Bartow, Florida
Application Date: February 26, 2007 or until filled

This position provides leadership, teaching, management and coordination for the planning, implementation and evaluation of the comprehensive county Family and Consumer Science education program for Polk County. Core areas may include housing, financial management, family development, nutrition, food safety, recycling and community development as it relates to Family and Consumer Sciences. The agent must have a good knowledge of community-based programming and educational principles.

The successful candidate must demonstrate ability to work with community agencies and groups in collaborations and partnerships. The individual will establish a strong local advisory committee to analyze the County situation, identify priority issues and design and implement a variety of programs to reach target clientele. Strong communication skills, both written and verbal, are required as well as a working understanding of computer use.

The agent will recruit, train, and utilize volunteers in building strong community programs and provide support for the county 4-H program in appropriate subject areas. The agent will assume other responsibilities as assigned by County Extension Director or District Extension Director.

A Bachelor’s degree in Family and Consumer Sciences or related field of study is required. A Master’s degree and experience is highly preferred. Candidates without Master’s degree would be expected to make significant progress toward degree completion within five years. Tuition is waived for course work completed within the State of Florida University system. Some evening and weekend work will be required. The successful candidate must pass physical examinations, drug screening and background checks as required by Polk County policy.

Polk County is a large county of over 2000 square miles located between the Tampa Bay area and Orlando. It is very diverse and growing rapidly with a population of approximately 540,000 residents. Polk County has a large agricultural sector with the largest acreage of citrus in the state. Phosphate processing, tourism, and wholesale distribution are also significant contributors to the economy. Polk County is corporate home of Publix Supermarkets. Polk County has an abundance of natural areas, parks, and over 550 lakes.