Quantitative Research Assistant Position Available with the Development, Early Education, and Policy Lab

We are seeking a current Northwestern undergraduate student with strong quantitative data management and analysis skills, initiative, attention to detail, and a desire to learn more about social science and measurement research. This is an exciting and unique opportunity to work with a team of developmental psychologists, economists, and statisticians to examine why an educational intervention varies across differing school contexts.

The Research Assistant (RA) will work with Dr. Terri Sabol (Assistant Professor) and her Development, Early Education, and Policy (DEEP) Lab at the School of Education and Social Policy. The RA will work on grant titled the “Contexts Inside and Outside of School Walls as Predictors of Differential Effectiveness in Preschool Professional Development” study, which is conducted in collaboration with Dr. Dana McCoy (Assistant Professor) and her research team at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. In this project, we aim to build the early childhood education evidence base by identifying and understanding the conditions under which professional development programs are more versus less effective in improving early childhood classroom quality and child learning outcomes. We will use cutting-edge statistical approaches, including novel multi-level regression models and the development of a virtual Systematic Social Observation (SSO) tool that allows researchers to take a virtual “walk” down the street using Google Street View and code what is happening around the neighborhood. An important aim of this project is to share lessons learned from our work to inform the field about how to implement RCTs with the intention of detecting impact variation.

In this position, the RA will work on creating a measure of the relationship between greenspace and school neighborhoods, requiring proficiency in Stata. Expertise in ArcGIS is preferred, but not required. This position holds the potential to continue work on additional areas of the grant. The RA will collaborate with a dynamic team of researchers across the country, and gain invaluable experience in data management and analysis of a large-scale evaluation study. Additionally, the RA will learn new, innovative methodological techniques for education and intervention research.

For more information about Dr. Sabol and the DEEP lab, please visit: http://sites.northwestern.edu/deep/.

To apply, please contact Sarah Guminski (sarah.guminski@northwestern.edu) with a cover letter, resume, and unofficial transcript. A minimum of a 3.0 GPA is required to be considered. The hourly rate is $11.40. We ask that applicants be available to work 5-10 hours per week.