



Undergraduate Student Research Assistant Northwestern Neighborhood & Network Initiative (N3) The Institute for Policy Research (IPR) at Northwestern University

Hours: ~8-10 hours per week (variable and dependent on project needs and RA availability)

Pay: Hourly pay (\$15/hr) or course credit; this position is also eligible for Work-Study

Note: This posting is for Fall 2020, with the potential to continue into the Winter and Spring quarters, and beyond. **This position is remote until further notice;** Future work may take place on-site at the N3 Lab located at 2001 Sheridan Rd. The majority of the RA's time will be dedicated to supporting qualitative data collection and analysis for various N3 projects.

About N3

The **Northwestern Neighborhood & Network Initiative (N3)** promotes new ways for faculty, experts, and students at Northwestern University's Institute for Policy Research to engage communities, civic partners, and policy makers to address core problems facing the residents of Chicago and surrounding communities. Specific projects and types of engagement are linked by a focus on how the social relationships among networks, geographic communities, and the constellation of groups, organizations, and civic partners affect what we feel, think, and do—and how understanding, building, and leveraging this sort of network-thinking can improve neighborhoods, the city, and our region.

We are currently working with community and civic partners in Chicago to implement and evaluate a series of interventions focused on reducing gun violence and improving public safety in the city. For more information about N3, visit:

<https://sites.northwestern.edu/n3lab/>

Responsibilities

N3 is looking for a part-time undergraduate research assistant (RA) to start in Fall 2020 to support qualitative work on projects related to violence prevention, public safety, and policing. The RA will perform a variety of important activities to advance the qualitative study components of numerous N3 projects, including:

- Supporting qualitative data collection by scheduling interviews, focus groups, and related study activities.
- Supporting qualitative data analysis by de-identifying and coding data, and performing basic analyses.
- Assisting in the preparation of results for memos, spreadsheets, and presentations to funders, policymakers, and academic audiences.
- Notetaking at various meetings and events, as requested.
- Possibly performing qualitative research data collection activities, including field observations, interviews, and/or focus groups*
- Other administrative tasks and responsibilities as assigned by N3 staff

*Virtual for the time-being

Educational Value

This is an excellent opportunity to gain hands-on research experience in an innovative, partnership-driven research space. We aim to bridge traditional academic and community/government boundaries to improve public safety and well-being for residents living in some of the most disinvested areas of Chicago. We can train highly committed individuals in research design, data collection, and analysis, as well as community-engaged research approaches. Our work is action-oriented and policy-relevant: your efforts will contribute to an increased understanding of how policies and practices can be shaped to more effectively reduce gun violence and improve policing in Chicago. For this reason, we look for a high level of commitment from our undergraduate students.

Desired Qualifications

We are looking for a person who demonstrates the following characteristics and skills:

- A **very high level of commitment** to the work of N3, enthusiasm, an open mind, and a desire to learn
- Reliable and responsible, **able to meet deadlines**
- A flexible “team player” who is willing to step in and help where needed, even with the most “basic” tasks
- Strong verbal and written communication skills and enjoys interacting with people
- Excellent organizational skills and attention to detail
- Ideally *some* experience with research, whether through coursework and/or in another lab/research center
- Will consider candidates from a variety of social science majors

Interested in Applying?

Please email resume and a brief letter of interest to Rebecca Weiland, Research Project Manager, by **October 1, 2020** at rebecca.weiland@northwestern.edu.