

Job Announcement: Full-time Research Associate
University of Pittsburgh, Department of Psychiatry
Pittsburgh Girls Study

Full-time Research Associate (RA) position available at the University of Pittsburgh, Department of Psychiatry. The RA will work on a new NIMH-funded research study of pregnant women and infants, directed by Dr. Irene Tung. This is a new sub-study of the Pittsburgh Girls Study (PGS), a large NIH-funded longitudinal study directed by Drs. Alison Hipwell and Kate Keenan. The PGS includes a racially and socioeconomically diverse sample of 2,450 girls from Pittsburgh, PA who have been assessed annually for 20 years to track developmental patterns of stress and psychopathology. In this new sub-study (“PGS-RISE”), we will use cutting-edge mobile health assessment methods (e.g., wearable biosensors, ecological momentary assessment) to examine the impact of daily stress and resilience-promoting resources during pregnancy on offspring emotion regulation.

Responsibilities:

- Coordinate recruitment and data collection efforts.
- Conduct phone screening and face-to-face interviews.
- Manage, track, and clean data collected via mobile apps, wearable biosensors, and psychophysiological assessment.
- Assist with the maintenance and revision of IRB protocols and approvals.
- Assist investigators in grant and manuscript writing.
- Assist with some laboratory tasks for the larger PGS, such as processing and organizing biospecimens (e.g., blood, saliva samples) that are used for assaying biomarkers of stress.

Required Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Psychology or related field.
- Minimum one year of work or volunteer experience in a psychology or related research setting.
- Ability to work flexible hours, including some weekends and evenings as needed.
- Proficient in using Word processing and Excel.
- Act 33/34/73 Clearances (Child Abuse/Criminal History/FBI).

Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience working with women and children in mental health or clinical research settings.
- Previous experience with data management and use of software programs for statistical analysis (e.g., SPSS) or the ability to learn new software tools quickly.

The ideal candidate will have an interest in psychological research and in working with women and children; demonstrate strong organizational and time-management skills with attention to detail; have excellent interpersonal/communication skills and work well independently as well as with a team; demonstrate interest and competence in working with participants from a diverse range of racial-ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds and share our team’s dedication to reducing health disparities and promoting racial and social equity. The RA will receive mentored training in the study’s research methods and gain valuable experience in research administration and preparation of grants and manuscripts. Independent research opportunities will be available based on interest and suitability. This position is well-suited for individuals interested in pursuing graduate study in clinical psychology, developmental psychology, or related fields.

Review of applications will begin immediately will continue until the position has been filled. Applicants from underrepresented or marginalized backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply. Interested candidates please send a CV, cover letter describing your interest and qualifications for the position, and contact information for three references to **Dr. Irene Tung** (tungi@upmc.edu). Please specify “PGS-RISE RA position” in the subject line. We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.