Two Full-Time Research Assistant Positions

The Michigan Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience (MiSCAN) Lab is seeking applicants for two full-time study coordinator positions in the Department of Psychiatry, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. The coordinators will be working in the MiSCAN Lab with PI Dr. Ivy Tso on several research projects examining the neurobiology of psychiatric illnesses (e.g. psychosis, bipolar disorder, anxiety disorders, autism-spectrum disorders) using neuroimaging (fMRI), eye tracking, neuromodulation (TMS), and/or EEG. These positions require a 2-year commitment with the possibility of renewal up to 5 years, depending on performance.

These individuals will work under the oversight of the PI and the direct supervision of the lab manager to screen, assess, and schedule patients for ongoing projects. They will administer neurocognitive and computerized assessments with research participants, oversee eye tracking data collection, guide participants through fMRI scans and run fMRI protocols, set up EEG electrodes/cap and run EEG experiments, and assist with fMRI/EEG data processing. Responsibilities will also include data collection; maintenance of study records; data entry, maintenance, and upload to NIH databases; accurate completion of daily paperwork and administrative tasks; preparing assessment materials; various participant contact; adherence to all study protocols; and coordinating/attending weekly team meetings.

These positions offer an excellent opportunity for developing research skills in clinical science and neuroscience. Dr. Tso is committed to (and has a track record of) mentoring post-bac research assistants in research and academic career development. These positions are an ideal stepping stone for those considering to pursue a graduate degree in clinical psychology or cognitive neuroscience.

See this link for more information about the MiSCAN Lab: https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/ivytso-lab/

See these links for more information about the research grants funding these two positions:


https://www.depressioncenter.org/newsroom/article/?article_id=2806

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Bachelor’s degree in psychology, neuroscience, or a related STEM discipline.

2. Strong interpersonal skills and flexibility for work with diverse populations in diverse settings.
3. 1-2 years of experience with research involving human subjects.

4. Basic computer skills - word processing, internet searches, spreadsheets, elementary statistics; additional skills in behavioral data acquisition helpful but not necessary

5. Highly organized, detail-oriented with the ability to understand/follow research protocols

6. Technical skills with equipment and software – training is available, but candidate must be competent to learn to use specialized lab equipment and software interfaces

7. Valid driver's license. Willing to drive regularly between UM campuses within Ann Arbor.

8. The ability to work both independently AND within a team. The candidate must be able to work independently for extended periods of time while receiving feedback and guidance from lab manager and faculty investigators.

9. The ability to adhere to strict confidentiality guidelines.

10. Strong self-motivation and adaptability in order to meet goals/deadlines of the project; so, the ability to problem-solve, prioritize multiple tasks, and meet deadlines are needed.

11. Flexibility in working hours is often required, depending on the scheduling needs of study participants, including weekends and evenings.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Experience working with patients with psychiatric disorders

2. Experience with behavioral data acquisition and processing is strongly preferred

3. Experience conducting fMRI or EEG studies strongly preferred, including experience working with fMRI technicians to implement study protocol or setting up EEG cap.

4. Familiarity with programming/scripting languages (MATLAB, ePrime, Presentation, Python, R, VBA, Bash, shell scripting)

5. Previous experience working as a member of an inter-disciplinary team is preferred.
6. Strong interest in conducting research involving psychiatric populations and developing technical research skills (e.g. programming, data processing/analysis, learning about neuroimaging research) is a plus.

HOW TO APPLY:

Please send CV (including names of 2-3 referees) and a cover letter describing your research interests, training & experience, and career goals to Dr. Ivy Tso at ivytso@med.umich.edu. We especially invite and encourage applications from members of underrepresented groups, including but not limited to racial/ethnic minorities, first-generation college students, and students from low-SES background. Review of applications will start immediately. Please email Carly Lasagna (Lab Manager) at clasagna@med.umich.edu if you have any questions about these positions.