



Full-time Research Assistant Position at Boston VA Medical Center/Harvard Medical School

Characterizing and Enhancing Attentional and Cognitive Impairments in Veterans

Objectives: 1) To further develop and test an attention training program aimed at enhancing sustained attention/inhibitory control and functional outcomes in Veterans undergoing a residential substance abuse rehabilitation program. 2) To use fMRI to better characterize trauma-related cognitive impairments and clinical disorders, such as PTSD. 3) To perform non-invasive brain stimulation (e.g., transcranial magnetic/electrical stimulation) further improve attention in neuropsychiatric (substance abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder) and healthy populations.

Description: This position will involve administering pre/post cognitive tests and overseeing participants' use of an innovative computer-based attention training program while they go through a residential substance abuse rehabilitation program at the Boston VA hospital. Under the supervision of Dr. Joe DeGutis, the RA will manage and analyze data, help with manuscript and grant preparation, and perform various administrative tasks as needed. This position will also entail the collection and analysis of fMRI as well non-invasive brain stimulation data. Under the supervision of Dr. Mike Esterman, the RA will execute non-invasive brain stimulation studies, both transcranial magnetic stimulation and transcranial electrical stimulation, in healthy and patient populations. This will entail performing MRI scans and neuroimaging analyses. Additionally, the RA will have chances to author papers and present his/her work at local and national conferences. This position will be based at the Boston VA Medical Center in Jamaica Plain. We are looking for someone who can start summer of 2018, and commit to two years. The position will provide an excellent opportunity for training in the fields of cognitive neuroscience, cognitive rehabilitation, neuropsychology, and substance abuse, and will uniquely prepare the individual for cognitive, clinical, or neuroscience graduate school programs.

Background required: College degree in psychology, neuroscience or related field and interest in making a career in such a field. Previous research experience.

Skills required: The candidate must be highly organized and have excellent people skills. Technical skills such as knowledge of statistical methods and programming are also a plus.

Salary: 36.9 K plus full benefits

If interested, please contact Dr. Joe DeGutis (degutis@hms.harvard.edu).