

**Applications due 02/11/2026**

We are seeking up to 3 full-time research assistants (RA) to join the [Pelham Lab](#) at the UC San Diego Department of Psychiatry. The PI is a licensed clinical child and adolescent psychologist. The RAs will work on projects related to externalizing problems, substance use, and parenting in children and adolescents.

This is the ideal position for somebody graduating college and seeking research experience, training, and peer-reviewed publications before applying to graduate school in psychology (e.g., clinical PhD).

**We structure our RA positions differently from some labs.** RAs are viewed as scientific roles and full lab members. They are expected to participate in all aspects of the science - to think critically and creatively, to become knowledgeable, to develop and use good judgment. RAs do not spend the majority of their time running participants.

**Our RAs have a track record of subsequent admission to clinical psychology PhD programs.** The previous 2 people to complete a 2-year RA position both received multiple fully-funded offers to PhD programs in clinical psychology.

Here are some further advantages of this position:

1. **Your colleagues will be exceptional.** We hire very talented RAs, postdoctoral fellows, and undergraduate assistants.
2. **You will receive significant training & time investment from the PI,** including daily 1-on-1 contact.
3. **You will have opportunities to write & co-author peer-reviewed publications.** 100% of our previous RAs have left the lab with a 1st author peer-reviewed publication.
4. **You will be working in one of the premiere psychology/psychiatry research environments in the world.** The [UCSD Department of Psychiatry](#) ranks 4th in the United States for total research funding and has more than 200 faculty members, including nationally-recognized experts in many areas.
5. **You will gain management experience.** 1 or more undergraduate assistants will report directly to you and assist with your projects.
6. **You will be living in San Diego!** Our offices are a 10-minute drive from [the beach](#).

Apply here by 02/11/2026:

<https://employment.ucsd.edu/staff-research-associate-hybrid-138210/job/118E9AD896590678B94E88B7EEE6329C>

Learn more about the lab here: <https://pelham-lab.ucsd.edu>