

Part Time - The Parent, Regulation, Engagement, Stress, and Health (PRESH) Project - Research Assistant

JOB DESCRIPTION AND POSITION REQUIREMENTS:

The Parent, Regulation, Engagement, Stress, and Health (PRESH) project, directed by Dr. Erika Lunkenheimer at The Pennsylvania State University, is accepting applications for a part-time Research Assistant opening (20 hours per week) in our University Park, PA office (Penn State Main Campus). The PRESH project involves studying parents' experience of being parented in childhood, their mental health, their beliefs about parenting, parenting stress, and parents' self-regulation. We are interested in how these factors influence parent-child interaction patterns, parents' disciplinary practices, and child outcomes. This study aims to discover which factors should be prioritized when attempting to better support parents to reduce stress and harsh discipline through intervention.

Job Duties

Major job duties could include:

- Conducting 3-hour data collection sessions with families in the laboratory, including conducting interviews, administering questionnaires, collecting biological data (e.g., applying electrodes to skin, collecting saliva samples), and completing experimental tasks with families and children according to study protocols.
- Helping to recruit families for the study by phone, online, or in person.
- Entering data, transferring data, coding video data, and/or managing datasets in Excel, SPSS, and data management software.
- Supporting the study Project Coordinator in supervising undergraduate research assistants if needed.

Hours will typically be during workday mornings (e.g., 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.), but weekdays and evenings are required on an as needed basis to accommodate families' schedules and recruitment events.

This opening is located in the Moore Building on the Penn State University Campus in State College, PA. It may require travel to families' homes and occasional travel to our Harrisburg, PA research office to coordinate with other study team members.

Requirements and Qualifications

Required Qualifications:

- Prior laboratory research experience.
- Familiarity and comfort with computer software (e.g., Microsoft Office, SPSS).

Preferred Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree.
- At least one year of previous research experience.
- Experience working with children and families.
- *Employment with the University for this job will require successful completion of the Pennsylvania (PA) Publicly Available Clearances: PA Child Abuse History Clearance, PA State Police Criminal Record Check, and the FBI Criminal History Background Check.*

Expected start date is July 1, 2022 but could be negotiable. Work schedule will be 20 hours per week, 12 months of the year. *Benefits are not included.*

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