

Research Assistant in the Gender Multispecialty Service at BCH

The Gender Multispecialty Service (GeMS) at Boston Children's Hospital is excited to offer an **8 hours/week research practicum experience** to a psychology undergraduate student. We are looking for applicants with a strong interest in working with and serving transgender and gender-diverse young people and their families.

LGBTQ+ candidates, particularly those of color are encouraged to apply.

Please note: Applications are due by **May 31st, 2022**. However, applications will be reviewed on a first come, first served basis. Therefore, *we strongly encourage interested applicants to submit their materials as soon as possible.*

About GeMS:

GeMS is a state-of-the-art clinical program that provides individualized, safe, and affirmative care to gender-diverse and transgender individuals and their families. The GeMS program was the first gender-affirming clinic for youth in the country and provides medical and behavioral health care and support for children and young adults between the ages of 3 and 25 years. We also seek to advance the field of transgender health through innovations in clinical care, advancement of research, and training of clinicians. Our current research has several areas of focus, including the psychosocial benefits of gender-affirming care, understanding the effect of minority stress on transgender and gender diverse (TGD) youth, the development of gender identity in young childhood, and disordered eating behaviors in TGD youth.

Time Commitment:

- 4 to 8 hours/week (for at least 6 months, ideally 12 months) to help build a research database. This requires on-site data entry close to Boston Children's Hospital. The student will work closely with GeMS psychologists on this project.
- Start time is flexible, although it would be ideal to start during the Summer (July/August).

Additional Opportunities:

- Potential authorship opportunities, dependent on individual contribution and fulfillment of authorship criteria set forth by Harvard Medical School.
- Shadowing GeMS psychologists working with gender-diverse and transgender youth interested in pursuing gender-affirming medical care.

Compensation:

- This is a volunteer and unpaid position. However, in addition to offering mentorship from GeMS psychologists, we are also able to work with a student to receive class and/or work study credit for their time (pending approval from the applicant's institution). We strongly recommend applicants speak directly with their professor or academic advisor to determine if this is an applicable available option.

Application Process and Timeline:

- To apply, please send the following to John McKenna, PhD: John.McKenna@childrens.harvard.edu
 - Resume or CV
 - 1-page letter of interest

- Select applicants will be contacted to schedule a brief Zoom interview

Please feel free to contact Dr. McKenna at john.mckenna@childrens.harvard.edu with any questions.