



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Center for

Weight, Eating and
Lifestyle Science

College of Arts and Sciences

Research Coordinator Opportunities

Note: two updates have been made to this job posting. 1) Additional faculty are now hiring. 2) For applicants who are unable to relocate to Philadelphia, some positions do offer an opportunity for remote work.

Applicants are being sought for several in-person and remote full-time research coordinator positions in the Drexel University Center for Weight, Eating and Lifestyle Science (WELL Center). The start date for the positions is Summer 2024. The positions are under the direction of Drs. Evan Forman, Meghan Butryn, Adrienne Juarascio, Erica LaFata, Stephanie Manasse, and Charlotte Hagerman.

Examples of NIH-funded clinical trials to be coordinated include the following:

- *Activate*: A Multiphasic Optimization Strategy (MOST) clinical trial investigating the independent and combinatory effects of mindfulness and acceptance-based components of behavioral treatment for lifestyle modification and weight control
- *ReLearn*: A clinical trial investigating the efficacy and cost-effectiveness of an AI system for optimizing behavioral coaching for lifestyle modification
- *NeuroFit*: An investigation of a gamified, self-help weight loss and neurotraining program for men
- *Fitlink*: This study provides behavioral weight loss to adults and tests ways in which sharing data from digital self-monitoring devices with other parties may improve outcomes.
- *Eatwell*: If funded, this study will test a behavioral intervention designed to promote adherence to dietary guidelines for cancer prevention.
- *Acquire II*: This study tests the independent and synergistic effects of various digital health treatment components as an adjunct to CBT for binge spectrum eating disorders
- *COMPASS*: This study tests the independent and synergistic effects of 4 common acceptance and mindfulness based treatment components as augmentations to behavioral treatment for binge spectrum eating disorders.
- *Response*: This study examines differences in the rewarding characteristics of, and physiological and metabolic responses to, ultra-processed foods that are high in fat, refined carbohydrates (like sugar), or both.

The research coordination roles include overall coordination of all study elements; implementing an advertisement/recruitment plan; refining and implementing the assessment protocol; scheduling and conducting participant screening and clinical assessments; managing data and databases; maintaining contact and approvals with NIH and IRB; collecting data with wearable sensors. **To apply, please take the following two steps: (1) Complete an [official application](#). (2) Complete a [supplemental information form](#). Applications are reviewed as they arrive, with the intent to begin interviews in February 2024, so please apply as soon as possible.**

The Center is staffed by faculty, post-doctoral fellows, research coordinators, clinical psychology Ph.D. students, and undergraduate students, providing an environment rich in intellectual stimulation and mentorship. The position represents an excellent opportunity to gain experience in obesity/eating disorders clinical research and to be trained in both research and clinical tasks. This position provides excellent preparation for individuals who wish to pursue graduate study in clinical psychology or a related area. Opportunities also will be available, as desired, for grant application preparation, research diagnostic assessment training, additional data analysis, and preparation of poster presentations and/or manuscripts related to the projects. Coordinators also have the opportunity to be exposed to and, in many cases, involved in intervention delivery.

The **WELL Center** is an interdisciplinary clinical research center, which develops, tests and disseminates new behavioral and technological solutions to the problems of obesity, poor diet, sedentary behavior, and disordered eating. Currently, the Center houses 55 faculty, staff, fellows and students, and 19 grant-funded projects valued at \$27.2M. Faculty at the WELL Center have been successful at attracting federal and foundation funding, and generating high-impact scientific scholarship in large part through a team science approach to research. I.e., they advise each other, co-write grant proposals and manuscripts, and serve as co-investigators on each other's projects. The WELL Center has a superior research infrastructure and an overall excellent scientific environment. As a result, members have outsized success, in terms of scholarship, scientific impact, extramural funding, and training-related outcomes (eg attainment of Ph.D., internship and postdoctoral positions).

Drexel is a world-class comprehensive research university committed to use-inspired research with real-world applications, and the University's research activities result in more than \$131 million in annual expenditures for sponsored projects. Drexel was founded in 1891 and is one of the nation's largest private universities. Drexel is also ranked in the top 8% of U.S. colleges and universities in a list compiled by The Wall Street Journal and Times Higher Education. and was recently named the most innovative mid-sized research university in the country

Drexel's hometown of **Philadelphia** is one of the nation's first and largest cities, and the birthplace of the nation. The city regularly wins awards (e.g., City of the Year, Best Restaurant City, Best Place to Visit, Most Walkable City, Coolest City, First World Heritage City, Best Shopping City), and offers a plethora of opportunities to learn, play, work, and engage in the arts, history, and culture. **For applicants who are unable to relocate to Philadelphia, some positions do offer an opportunity for remote work.**