

Research Specialist (Research Professional 1)

About the Job

The Translational Research in Cognitive and Affective Mechanisms (TRiCAM) laboratory in the University of Minnesota Department of Psychology seeks to hire a Research Specialist (8352P1: Research Professional 1) responsible for conducting human psychological research and coordinating scholars (to include students and other scientists) affiliated with the laboratory. The Research Specialist will work as part of a team to refine experimental protocols, and then to recruit, test and train research participants in completing the protocols. The Research Specialist may also perform statistical analyses under the guidance of the PI and other members of the team to establish and maintain data integrity and to test various hypotheses. The laboratory is running a number of studies that involve patients with psychosis and other serious mental illnesses. This position is ideal for a college graduate interested in psychological or psychophysiological research who wants to grow their career by engaging in experimental psychopathology, including patient interactions and data collection. The successful applicant will join an active laboratory with a team of full-time staff, graduate students and undergraduate researchers addressing a broad array of questions of interest to clinical psychology. You will have the opportunity to learn advanced techniques, publish scientific papers, attend conferences and build your network with collaborators across the U.S.

We especially encourage applicants from under-represented minorities to apply.

Major Responsibilities

- Recruitment, consent, clinical and cognitive assessment, behavioral and electrophysiological testing, and follow-up of participants as part of on-going protocols, including working with psychiatric populations such as those with psychosis (70%)
- Quantitative analyses of relevant raw data and database queries, flagging issues in need of further attention by the PI or other research personnel, and preparing relevant reports (10%)
- Assisting in the management of institutional review board, federal and other regulatory compliance correspondence (10%)
- Facilitating communication between laboratory collaborators and other scientists (10%)

Qualifications

Essential Qualifications

- BA/BS in Psychology, Cognitive Science, Neuroscience or a related education or work experience equal to four years
- Proficiency in common computer applications, including word processing and spreadsheets;
- Experience administering clinical and cognitive assessments with participants;
- Ideal candidates will have research experience working with psychiatric populations;
- Ideal candidates will have a demonstrated capacity for quantitative analyses, including statistical software or statistical databases

Preferred Qualifications

- Coursework in Cognitive or Abnormal Psychology
- Experience in electroencephalographic (EEG) recording systems

- Experience in applying skills and attention to recurring tasks with an emphasis on precision and timeliness;
- Capacity for performing structured research-related work assignments following established procedures and guidelines under supervision, such as statistical analyses using SPSS/R or equivalent;
- Experience with social media and other web-based applications.

About the Department

The Department of Psychology ranks among the top academic departments in the nation and throughout the world. Psychology has 41 core faculty members and graduate programs in Clinical Science and Psychopathology Research; Cognitive and Brain Sciences; Counseling Psychology; Industrial/Organizational Psychology; Personality, Individual Differences, and Behavioral Genetics; Quantitative/Psychometric Methods; and Social Psychology. The Department of Psychology offers programs leading to B.A., B.S., and Ph.D. degrees. For additional information, please visit the Department of Psychology website, at <https://cla.umn.edu/psychology>

TRiCAM Laboratory

TRiCAM Laboratory research, funded through NIH and private funding sources, seeks to identify the cognitive and neural mechanisms associated with executive control processing, decision-making, and emotion regulation, as well as how these mechanisms may be impaired in individuals with psychopathology, such as schizophrenia or addictive disorders. To this end, the laboratory studies healthy undergraduate students, community participants and people receiving care for psychiatric conditions. Assessment mechanisms include computer-administered cognitive testing, self-report, interviews, neuroimaging and other physiological metrics.

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