

Postgraduate Associate Position in Ventola Lab at the Yale Child Study Center

The Ventola Lab at the Yale Child Study Center and Cogstate is looking to fill one postgraduate (post-baccalaureate) position associated with studies of brain mechanisms and treatment of neurodevelopmental disorders.

The Yale Child Study Center is a leading institution in autism research. Cogstate is an independent science company that supports clinical trials. The Yale Child Study Center and Cogstate have developed a collaborative partnership to support clinical trials in pediatric and developmental disability populations.

The Yale Child Study Center provides fellows the opportunity to shadow weekly developmental disability clinic rounds, attend Child Study Center Grand Rounds, as well as other departmental Grand Rounds lectures in the School of Medicine in addition to their clinical and research responsibilities. The fellows will be involved in industry-sponsored pharmaceutical trials at Cogstate and gain experience with clinical trial design and methodology, clinician trainings, management of cognitive and behavioral assessments, and statistical approaches.

The fellowship combines elements of experiential learning with supervision, self-directed learning, and shadowing. The primary training experience will be training and experience in Pivotal Response Treatment, an evidence-based treatment for children with ASD. The postgraduate fellow, under the supervision of Dr. Ventola, will hold both clinical and research responsibilities. The fellows will be trained in Pivotal Response Treatment (PRT); an empirically validated behavioral intervention for children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). They will then be primary PRT clinicians for children with ASD, under the supervision and mentorship of a licensed psychologist. The fellows will also conduct standardized psychological assessments with children and complete a variety of parent interviews. Lastly, fellows will be involved in direct research within the laboratory using fMRI, EEG, and eye-tracking measures.

Under Dr. Ventola's mentorship, selected applicants will be expected to guide a predetermined project of research from the point of data collection through analysis and presentation of results. Successful candidates will have a high degree of initiative and independence with strong organizational and interpersonal skills. They must have the ability to work effectively with many types of people across different settings while juggling multiple tasks. Flexibility, endurance, and attention to detail are also essential qualities.

The Postgraduate Associate position is two years in duration with a salary of \$44,400.00. Postgraduate positions are open to those who have recently received a bachelor and/or master's degree, but not doctoral degrees.

Anticipated start date is July 2026.

BA or BS required. Psychology, Pre-Med, or Neuroscience background required with research experience and experience of working with children. Please submit a letter of interest, resume, a copy of academic transcript, and one letter of reference to Pamela Ventola, Ph.D., at pamela.ventola@yale.edu by 2/15/2026. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled.

Yale University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer. Yale values diversity among its students, staff, and faculty and strongly welcomes applications from women, persons with disabilities, protected veterans, and underrepresented minorities.