Research Assistant in the Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience Lab at American University

Job Description:
Summary:
The Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience Laboratory at American University in Washington DC, directed by Dr. Laurie Bayet (https://www.bayetlab.com/), is currently accepting applications for a full-time, benefits-eligible Research Assistant position, to assist on NSF and foundation-funded funded projects investigating infant visual cognition and social communication (e.g., NSF award # 2122961). The lab uses electro-encephalography (EEG), functional near-infrared spectroscopy (fNIRS), behavioral measures, and machine learning The position is ideal for an individual seeking to deepen their research experience in preparation for graduate study.

Essential Functions:
- Data Management: Assisting with data collection in adherence with study protocols, such as: informed consent, EEG, fNIRS, and/or eye-tracking measurements, transferring research data files to the lab server.
- Participant Recruitment and Support: Outreach, recruitment, and communication with families who participate in the research, such as: designing and implementing outreach/recruitment materials, assessing study eligibility, scheduling study visits, maintaining contact with participating families.
- Data Entry and Processing: Conduct data entry, data pre-processing, video coding, and data management, in adherence with study protocols.
- Personnel: Onboarding and supervision of undergraduate research assistants.
- Study General Support: Assisting with designing and implementing experimental procedures, such as: creating and validating stimuli, surveys, and/or paradigms; monitoring materials and supplies.
- Compliance: Develop and monitor IRB protocols for approval, modification, or renewal.
- Other duties as assigned by supervisor. Opportunity to contribute to conference presentations and/or manuscript writing, if desired.

Position Type/Expected Hours of Work:
- The initial position is for 1-year and is renewable contingent upon continued funding and successful completion of duties.

Salary Range:
- Commensurate with experience.

Required Education and Experience:
- High school diploma or equivalent required.
- 1-3 years' relevant experience required.
- Interest in developmental psychology, cognitive science, and/or neuroscience required.
- Excellent organizational and project management skills, including Initiative, self-motivation, rigor, attention to details, ability to work independently on multiple tasks, learn new skills in a fast-paced environment, and meet deadlines required.

- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, including comfort interacting professionally with families, infants, and undergraduate students; ability to work effectively with people from diverse backgrounds required.
- Prior experience in developmental research (e.g., with infants/children) and/or human neuroimaging research (e.g., EEG, MEG, fNIRS) (strongly preferred, but not strictly required if has some other relevant research experience) required.
- Flexibility to adapt to changing hours, such as the ability to run study visits with families during weekends, or occasionally during the evening required.

Preferred Education and Experience:
- Bachelor's degree in Psychology or Neuroscience or closely related field preferred.
- Computational skills and programming experience in Matlab, R, and/or Python preferred, but not strictly required.

Additional Eligibility Qualifications:
- Relevant experience with neuroscience/psychology research tools (e.g., NetStation, Psychtoolbox, Datavyu, Lookit/ChildrenHelpingScience, EEGLAB, Homer, BIDS), data analysis, data processing, manuscript preparation, and/or social media or community outreach a plus.
- The ability to start by late Spring/early Summer and the intention to make a 2-years commitment are preferred.

Benefits

AU offers a competitive benefits package including a 200% matching retirement plan, tuition benefits for full-time staff and their families, several leadership development certificates, and has been recognized by the American Heart Association as a fit-friendly worksite. Click here to learn about American University's unique benefit options.

Other Details
- Hiring offers for this position are contingent on successful completion of a background check.
- Employees in staff positions at American University must deliver their services to the university from either the District of Columbia, Maryland, or Virginia, or perform work on-site at the university.
- Please note this job announcement is not designed to cover or contain a comprehensive listing of activities, duties or responsibilities that are required of the employee for this job. Duties, responsibilities, and activities may change at any time with or without notice.
- American University is an E-Verify employer.

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