

Research Assistant in the Stress and Early Adversity (SEA) Lab at Vanderbilt University

Position Summary:

We are looking for a Research Assistant (either full- or part-time) for the Vanderbilt Stress and Early Adversity (SEA) Lab, a fast-paced highly collaborative interdisciplinary research group exploring child development, the early caregiving environment, brain development during period of dramatic change, and interventions to improve child and family functioning.

Under the supervision of Dr. Humphreys, the individual in this position will be involved in leading participant data collection activities for multiple longitudinal research studies. Data collection for these studies involves acquisition of MRI data, laboratory-based parent-child interactions, home visits, in addition to interviews to assess mental health and exposure to stress and adversity. Additional duties may include supporting recruitment efforts, helping to schedule study visits, overseeing undergraduate and masters students, quality checking and auditing data collection, and providing administrative support for the study. This position will require work during the evenings and over the weekends to complete study visits and accommodate participant schedules. Experience gained in this position will be particularly useful for those hoping to continue working in a research environment, including pursuing a graduate degree.

About the Work Unit:

At the Stress and Early Adversity Lab, we are committed to fostering an environment that thrives on hard work, high expectations, and the pursuit of excellence. We celebrate achievements, big and small, and recognize that excellence is the driving force behind our impactful research. If you are seeking an environment where every day involves new and interesting challenges, you work in large and fast-paced team environment, and you're eager to contribute to a team conducting cutting-edge, translational research, we would love for you to apply.

Key Functions and Expected Performance:

- Lead study visits and data collection with children and caregivers in studies involving neuroimaging, clinical interviews, proximity and auditory in-home assessments, home visits, stress/adversity and mental health assessments, specimen collection
- Ensure completion of study questionnaires and procedures, including follow up reminders for participants
- Support community engagement activities related to research studies
- Assist with recruitment and screening of participants
- Assist with scheduling for multiple complex (and multi-part) studies
- Monitor participant communication ensuring a timely response

- Plan and oversee training of undergraduate and masters-level research assistants, as needed
- Develop REDCap surveys and data collection instruments
- Quality check data and perform audits of study data
- Assist with transportation for study devices, as needed
- Perform general administrative duties to maintain the workings of the laboratory

Experience and Skills:

- Expected to have a strong work ethic, high integrity, and excellent interpersonal skills
- Must be organized, detail oriented, and able to function well independently
- Experience working with infants, toddlers, families is required
- Experience recruiting and scheduling participants for research study visits preferred
- Ability to work outside of normal business hours to accommodate the families we work with
- Experience developing study protocols and process documentation is preferred
- Experience with REDCap is preferred
- General understanding of scientific theory and methods

[Apply here!](#)