Research Technician in the Family & Child Development Lab at the University of Missouri

Job Description:

The [Family & Child Development Lab](#) at the University of Missouri, directed by Dr. Ashley Groh, is recruiting a full-time postgraduate associate to begin in summer 2024. The postgraduate associate will work on an NSF funded study on the human maternal brain over the transition to motherhood. Specifically, this study examines the interplay of maternal psychological risk (e.g., attachment insecurity, depression) and neural reactivity to infant cues (using EEG/ERP) on maternal and infant health and well-being across the perinatal period. The postgraduate associate will be responsible for study management and behavioral and EEG data collection, reduction, and analysis.

The postgraduate associate will also support other tasks related to the team's research, such as manuscript preparation, grant writing, presentations at conferences, design of future studies, and other duties as assigned. This is an ideal position for a highly motivated and enthusiastic individual looking to gain more research experience on topics related to parent-child relationships, neural processes (EEG/ERP), and development before pursuing a PhD in a related field (e.g., development psychology, neuroscience, clinical psychology, HDFS).

This position is a one-year appointment with renewal contingent upon satisfactory performance and availability of funding and with a start date in Summer 2024.

The successful candidate will have:

- Experience working with parents and infants/children
- Experience with EEG/ERP
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Exceptional project management skills, including good attention to detail
- The ability to work both independently and in a collaborative environment

Essential Duties

- **Assist with all aspects of the research process**: recruit and schedule participants; conduct lab visits with (expectant) mothers and infants; create and program stimuli; write protocols; assist with grant reports, manuscript preparations, and conference presentations
- **Assist with EEG/ERP and Observational Data Collection/Reduction**: collect EEG/ERP and observational data from (expectant) mothers and infants; code, process, and analyze EEG/ERP and observational data
- **Assist with daily lab operations**: purchase lab supplies and equipment; manage budgets, IRB protocols, participant database, website, social media, newsletters; establish and coordinate recruitment events (e.g. Baby Expos, Hospital Education Classes)

- **Lead a team of undergraduate research assistants:** recruit and interview undergraduate research assistants; develop training manuals and provide training; assign daily and long-term tasks; supervise research assistant progress

Preferred Qualifications:
- 1-2 years of research experience, preferably infants and parents AND with EEG/ERP methods
- Exceptional organizational, time management, and leadership skills
- Strong writing, communication, and interpersonal skills
- Self-motivated to learn new skills and solve problems independently, attentive to detail, and comfortable juggling multiple tasks
- Familiarity with observational research methodologies and statistical analysis
- Proficiency (or willingness to learn) R, SPSS, Qualtrics, Photoshop; expertise with Microsoft office (Word, Excel)
- Creativity and/or a design background (to help with stimuli creation, recruitment, newsletters)
- Computer programming, or web development skills would be a plus

Minimum Qualifications:
- Bachelor's degree (in psychology, neuroscience, human development and family studies, or a related field)

Interested applicants can apply here: [Careers (umsystem.edu)](umsystem.edu) and enter Job ID: 51363

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