



Research Associate in Health Economics & Data Science

General Description

The Department of Public Health Sciences at the University of Rochester seeks a highly motivated individual to serve as a full-time predoctoral research associate (RA) for 2-3 years under the supervision of Dr. Elaine L. Hill, a health economist. Additional mentors include Dr. Meredith Adams (Wake Forest), Dr. Sumedha Gupta (IUPUI), and Dr. Kosali Simon (IU). The successful candidate will participate in a recently funded project by NIH NIDA. The project seeks to characterize the impact of SARS-CoV-2 and associated mitigation efforts on people with opioid use disorder (OUD) ([link to project description](#)). RAs collect and organize data, conduct statistical analysis on large databases, contribute to manuscript writing (with the option for co-authorship), and provide other support associated with faculty research.

The candidate will join the [Health and Environmental Economics Lab \(HEEL\)](#) at URMC, joining a vibrant research team/community. One of our missions is to increase the representation of women and non-binary individuals and persons historically excluded from economics through our work. We invite and encourage all with the basic qualifications to apply.

The ideal candidate should be completing (or have completed) a Bachelor's or Master's degree and will have: (i) a strong quantitative background; (ii) excellent programming skills (especially in Stata, with openness to learn SAS, python, R or SQL); (iii) the ability to work independently to solve problems; and (iv) a long-term interest in pursuing research in economics. Background in economics is recommended but not necessary – we welcome candidates with strong technical backgrounds who are looking for more exposure to economics and data science. Knowledge of GIS is also recommended. Soft skills such as writing, planning, and organization may be prioritized over technical skills, as technical skills can be gained through work experience.

HEEL is a place for growing, learning, and collaboration. We will mentor and guide the ideal candidate, providing onboarding and training. Our team engages in regular workshops to enhance research skills on the team.

Specific Responsibilities:

- Support ongoing research projects of faculty, compile, manipulate, and analyze data using various search engines and software packages;
- Collect, manage, and manipulate complex datasets using a variety of tools and sources, including but not limited to Stata, SAS, R, or Python;
- Create maps and link spatial data to health data
- Collaborate with other members of the research team to advance research progress;
- Maintain effective communication with all members of the faculty, HEEL team, and outside collaborators;
- Assist faculty with project management, managing near- and long-term priorities, exercising independent decision-making concerning the progression of research projects;
- Provide training to undergraduate research assistants to enhance skills in the lab
- Other duties may be assigned.

Basic Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in relevant field required.
- Strong working knowledge of Stata is required.
- Evidence of academic excellence and of independent research experience.

Additional Qualifications and Skills

The candidate must be analytically-minded and possess strong conceptual skills; have extremely high standards in terms of quality of work, attention to detail, and strong organizational and communication skills. Preference will be given to candidates that demonstrate a desire to work in a collaborative multi-disciplinary environment and can work independently and in group settings.

Other skills desired: Proven ability to handle multiple projects simultaneously and to adapt to changes in priorities; work both independently and as a team member; take initiative and follow projects through to completion.

Other Information

Please do not contact the faculty directly.

The position is initially available for one year with the possibility of renewal (up to 3 years) based upon performance and a mutual desire to continue the appointment. The start date for this position is flexible, but ideally would begin as soon as possible or before/around June 1, 2023.

To Apply

Interested applicants should complete [this application](#) and upload a cover letter, resume/C.V., transcripts (unofficial is fine), and contact details for up to 3 references. Optional inclusion of a writing sample is encouraged. Review of candidates will continue until a candidate is identified.

The University of Rochester is committed to fostering, cultivating and preserving a culture of equity and inclusion. The University believes that a diverse workforce and inclusive workplace culture enhances the performance of our organization and our ability to fulfill our important missions. The University is committed to fostering and supporting a workplace culture inclusive of people regardless of their race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, marital status, age, physical abilities, political affiliation, religious beliefs or any other non-merit fact, so that all employees and students feel included, equally valued, and supported.