

Science Education Researcher

Overview

Horizon Research, Inc. (HRI), is a small research firm located in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, specializing in research and evaluation work related to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education. HRI is currently seeking a candidate to fill a full-time, entry-level Research Associate position.

Minimum Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in Science Education, elementary/middle grades education with an emphasis in science, or a science discipline
- Ability to work in a fast-paced environment with rapidly changing priorities
- Balance work on several projects to complete varied tasks on time
- Outstanding organization and time management with attention to detail
- Ability to work both independently and collaboratively
- Strong oral and written communication skills
- Proficiency with word-processing, spreadsheet, and presentation programs (e.g., Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint, Google Docs, Google Sheets, Google Slides), and video conferencing software (e.g., Zoom, Teams)

Preferred Qualifications

- STEM teaching experience in formal or informal settings (preferably with students in grades K–12)
- Graduate education or a Graduate degree in STEM Education or a STEM discipline
- Knowledge of quantitative and qualitative research methods
- Experience carrying out STEM education research or other social science research
- Familiarity with using data collection tools (e.g., SurveyMonkey, Alchemer)
- Familiarity with using qualitative analysis software (e.g., Dedoose, NVivo, ATLAS.ti)

Essential Functions

The Research Associate will engage in a variety of research and evaluation tasks in the following areas: (1) Evaluation/Research Planning, (2) Instrument Development, (3) Data Collection, (4) Data Processing, (5) Data Analysis, (6) Summarizing Data, and (7) Reporting/Presentations.

Specific duties may include:

- Contributing to project-level planning activities, such as writing research/evaluation questions and creating research/evaluation plans

- Assisting with instrument development, including observation protocols, interview protocols, surveys, and assessment items
- Carrying out data collection activities, including administering surveys, interviewing, and observing (classrooms, workshops, meetings)
- Assisting with data tracking, storage, and cleaning, such as de-identifying open-ended survey responses; keeping accurate records of planned, scheduled, and completed data collection; and ensuring data are stored as expected for each project
- Assisting with data analysis, including using field notes to complete observation protocols, scoring assessment items using a provided rubric, coding interview and survey data, and summarizing data from a single interview
- Writing data summaries, including summaries of observations, qualitative and/or quantitative survey data, and across interviews
- Assisting with report writing (formative memos, annual reports) and delivering presentations to different audiences (advisory boards, professional conferences)

Physical Requirements

The candidate must be able to complete the following physical requirements with or without a reasonable accommodation:

- Remain in a stationary position (sitting or standing)
- Consistently operate a computer and other office productivity devices (e.g., copy machine, printer)
- Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing
- Travel by car and airplane, including overnight stays (typically 1-3 days in duration), as needed

Hours and Salary

This exempt position will require 30-40 hours of work per week, usually between 8:30am and 5:00pm. This is a hybrid position (i.e., employees choose whether to work remotely or in the Chapel Hill office) with some in-office work required. Occasional work-related travel is required. Salary is dependent upon experience and qualifications.

Benefits

Benefits currently include paid sick and vacation time, health care coverage, Employee Assistance Program (EAP), basic life insurance, and 401K/retirement planning.

Additional Information

HRI is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, sex, religion, national origin, citizenship, marital status, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, genetic information, or any other personal characteristics protected by law.

HRI is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice. Candidates of all backgrounds who meet the criteria above are strongly encouraged to apply.

To Apply

Applications must include:

- (1) A letter of interest that states the position you are applying for and available start date
- (2) A current résumé or curriculum vitae

These documents should be submitted to Gretchen Newman at hr@horizon-research.com (with the subject line “Science Education Researcher Position”). Review of applications will begin immediately and continue on a rolling basis.