

Job Title: Research Associate
Salary: £39,906 - £46,049 per annum, pro-rata
Grade: 7
Department: Division of Public Health & Epidemiology
Hours/Contract: Full-time or part-time considered (minimum 0.5 FTE/18.75 hours) and fixed-term until 31 March 2026
Job Family: Teaching and Research
Job Reference: 12114

Role Purpose

This post in the Social Science Applied to Healthcare Improvement Research (SAPPHIRE) research group, Division of Public Health and Epidemiology, University of Leicester, will include working on a cross-project study of the implementation of interventions to improve care for people with multiple long-term conditions in primary care, funded by the NIHR Applied Research Collaboration (ARC) East Midlands.

You will demonstrate expertise in qualitative research methods, implementation research, and health policy knowledge. You will have good communication skills, an ability to manage research projects and delivery of research, and to lead on peer reviewed publications. You will work closely with principal investigators as well as with external collaborators.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Research

- To take responsibility for planning and managing element(s) of the planned research
- To contribute to collection of qualitative interviews with academics and health service stakeholders.
- To lead on analysis of qualitative data, drawing on research literature and health policy knowledge
- To contribute to the development of the choice of techniques, critiques, approaches, models and methods
- To contribute to the overall research programme using innovative research models, novel approaches and techniques.
- In agreement with the line manager, liaise with project collaborators to progress the research
- To lead in writing up research findings for dissemination amongst the research team and broader international community, and develop ideas and contributions for future grants, technical outputs.
- To represent the research group by disseminating results/findings at national and international conferences and broader community.
- To contribute to research outputs as a co-author to journal articles.





- To develop and carry out a plan to extend an area of personal research, or contribute as a team member to the development of a broader programme, this may include contributing to the writing of research bids/grants.
- With the support of colleagues, identify opportunities to apply for fellowships and/or further project grants
- To provide guidance to other staff and students (involved in the research programme).
- To actively seek opportunities to carry out multi-disciplinary research with other research groups at the University or stakeholders external to the University, with the approval of the Principal Investigator (PI).

Professional Development

- Duties and opportunities to engage in work that support your own professional development.

Impact and Knowledge Exchange

- Network and contribute to the maintaining and furthering of the wider research programme and research area
- To consult effectively on own specialism directly with people external to the University
- To engage positively and pro-actively in research impact

Leadership and Citizenship

- Guidance to other team members both research staff and students
- Pro-actively build networks and collaborations.
- Providing mentoring and coaching to Early Career Researchers and research students.

Internal and External Relationships

Regular meetings with members of the programme research group

Meeting members of the department for critical discussion of the research and exchange of new ideas and approaches that might benefit the research

Liaison with external collaborators

Planning and Organising

You will be required to effectively manage your time to plan your research activity and to deliver on the priorities of the project:

- Prioritise tasks within agreed work schedules;
- Plan for specific aspects of research incorporating issues such as deadlines,





project milestones and overall research aims;

- Adapt daily and weekly plans to accommodate new developments and be flexible to the changing priorities of the research project;

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential

- PhD (or near completion) or equivalent in appropriate discipline or the equivalent professional qualification and experience *
- Experience of leading qualitative data collection and analysis in health services research and policy
- Evidence of contribution to peer-reviewed journal papers in health services research and policy*
- Evidence of proven analytical and problem solving capability *
- Expertise in relevant evaluation approaches/models.

Essential

- Willingness and ability to work with internal and external stakeholders*
- Evidence of continued development of subject expertise*
- Excellent communication skills – written and verbal evidenced by the ability to communicate complex information *
- Evidence of working effectively as part of a team and the ability to work independently *
- Working towards independence and ability to be involved in collaborative research
- Evidence and commitment to Continuous Professional Development (CPD) for yourself, and encourage commitment to learn and develop in others
- Collegiate member of a research team

Desirable

- Budget management skills

***Criteria to be used in shortlisting candidates for interview**

The reason for the fixed term contract is stated in section 1.9 in the summary of contractual terms in your contract of employment.





Criminal Declaration

If you become an employee, you must inform your manager immediately, in writing, if you are the subject of any current or future police investigations/legal proceedings, which could result in a criminal offence, conviction, caution, bind-over or charges, or warnings.

Supporting University Activities

As a University of Leicester citizen, you are encouraged to support key university activities such as clearing, graduation ceremonies, student registration and recruitment open days. We encourage all staff as citizens to work flexibly across the University if required. If supporting these activities is likely to affect your workload, please speak to your line manager in the first instance

University Values

Inclusive - We are diverse in our makeup and united in ambition. Our diversity is our strength and makes our community stronger.

Inspiring - We are passionate about inspiring individuals to succeed and realise their ambitions. We challenge our community to think differently, to get involved, and to constantly embrace new ideas.

Impactful - As Citizens of Change we will generate new ideas which deliver impact and empower our community

Equity and Diversity

We believe that equity, diversity and inclusion is integral to a successful modern workplace. By developing and implementing policies and systems that challenge stereotypes across all aspects of our work, we have a culture that recognises and values the diverse contributions of our staff which benefits everyone. Our strong values of inclusivity and equity support our efforts to attract a diverse range of high quality staff and students, and identify our University as a progressive and innovative workplace that mainstreams equity, diversity and inclusion.

