



Job Title: Research Assistant

Grade: 6

Salary: £33,002 to £37,694 per annum

Department: Division of Respiratory Sciences

Hours/Contract: Full time fixed term contract until 30/11/2028

Job Family: Teaching and Research

Reference: 13085

Role Purpose

The Division of Respiratory Sciences at the University of Leicester are seeking Research Assistant to join them to support Breathlessness research, working on the Artificial Intelligence assisted earlier Respiratory Evaluation (AIRE) study, and other studies, working under the direction of the Programme Manager and the Chief/Principal Investigator (CI/PI). The AIRE study aims to combine state-of-the-art language engineering techniques and Artificial Intelligence (AI) to provide easier, earlier access to specialist respiratory diagnostic expertise. The Research Assistant role will be responsible for the Qualitative data collection and collaboration with all key stakeholders in the wider programme of work.

The post holder will be expected to work proactively as part of a wider team working closely with NHS clinical and academic staff to support research visits, to ensure the highest standards of research governance, and to deliver the studies on time and to budget. They will have experience of working with patients, and ideally in a respiratory research setting, as well as trial management knowledge to maintain the smooth and effective running of the clinical trials and research studies in accordance with the study protocols, ethics and regulatory approvals, standard operating procedures (SOPs), the principles of Good Clinical Practice (GCP), applicable EU Directives and UK legislation. The post holder will work collaboratively and independently as part of a research team to achieve defined milestones and produce high quality research.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Research

- To support a research team in the acquisition, evaluation and /or interpretation of data and other specialised information.
- To carry out analyses, tests and critical evaluations using agreed techniques, novel approaches and/or models.
- To prepare and undertake high-quality data analysis and tests using appropriate techniques and novel approaches.
- To contribute to the development or choice of techniques, critiques, approaches, models and research methods.
- To summarise findings, record, and disseminate where appropriate to members of the research group
- To contribute to research outputs such as co-authored journal articles/technical papers/book chapters relating to the work
- To carry out literature searches within pre-specified parameters.
- To assist in supporting research students in the use of specific methods or approaches under the direction of their line manager.
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Professional Development:

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

Impact and Knowledge Exchange:

- Participate in workshops and conferences to support the dissemination of research findings.

Leadership and Citizenship:

- Contribute to the overall success of the research programme

Internal and External Relationships

- Communicate and liaise with colleagues and collaborators involved in the above mentioned research programme and other projects and the team is undertaking, on a regular basis to review and plan research activities.
- Communicate with Technical Managers and core technical support staff on a regular basis to discuss ongoing lab issues, health and safety matters, and future plans for the laboratory areas.
- Occasionally communicate and liaise with research collaborators, both nationally and internationally, under the instruction of your line manager.
NHS staff and patients

Planning and Organising

With guidance from the Principal Investigator, or equivalent, plan own work and prioritise research and project/laboratory activities on a regular basis, including co-ordinating resources and maintenance of samples and equipment.

- The post-holder will be required to effectively manage their time to deliver on the priorities of the research programme with the support of their line manager.
- Attend suitable training courses or equivalent and be proactive in terms of continued professional development.

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential

- Evidence of Honours degree and/or relevant experience *
- Practical experience and knowledge of applying research skills and techniques to deliver outputs on time and to the required quality.*
- Qualitative research experience.*

Desirable

- Currently studying for a PhD
- Educated to Master's level or equivalent





Skills, Abilities and Competencies

Essential

- Ability to demonstrate research potential and enthusiasm for the subject area and contribute to delivering high quality research *
- Excellent analytical and problem solving skills *
- Evidence of continued personal development of subject expertise *
- Team player, support broader research group
- Excellent communication skills – written and verbal*
- Ability to prioritise tasks within agreed work schedules*
- Commitment to continuous professional development (CPD)
- Willingness to participate in workshops and conferences to support the dissemination of results and findings

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

Reason for Fixed Term Contract

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 and Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

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.

This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 because the appointee will have substantial access to young people and/or vulnerable adults. Therefore, an appointment to this post will be subject to checking through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). The successful applicant for this post will, therefore, be required to give consent for the University to check and obtain appropriate clearance with the DBS for the existence and content of any criminal record in the form of a standard disclosure.

Information received from the DBS and the police will be kept in strict confidence and will be destroyed once the University is satisfied in this regard.

NHS Research Governance

Where it is determined that the duties of this post for the purposes of research involve work with the NHS, it is necessary to ensure that the performance of the duties attached to the post are covered by NHS research governance arrangements and the appointee must comply with all such arrangements, which may include occupational health clearance and DBS clearance.

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

Freedom of Speech

The University is committed to upholding freedom of speech and academic freedom within the law throughout our recruitment processes. We ensure that all candidates are considered based on merit and suitability for the role, without regard to their lawful viewpoints or the expression of challenging or controversial ideas. Our recruitment policies and practices are designed to protect applicants from discrimination or adverse treatment on the basis of their opinions, and to foster an environment where open debate and diverse perspectives are valued as essential to our academic mission.

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 equality 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 equality, diversity and inclusion.

