

Job Title: Research Associate

Grade: 7

Salary: £39,906 to £46,049 per annum, pro-rata if part-time

Department: Centre for Healthcare Innovation and Policy Management

Hours/Contract: Full-time or job share, fixed term contract to 31 January 2031. Due to external funding restrictions, an offer above the bottom of the scale may reduce the contract length available.

Reference: 13497

Role Purpose

To undertake a program of research funded by the NIHR ARC EM (National Institute for Health and Care Research, Applied Research Collaboration, East Midlands). This post will contribute to the 'Translation and Implementation Research' Theme within the NIHR ARC EM. The postholder will be responsible for the design, organisation, and delivery of research projects, including national evaluations and systematic reviews. The role requires a high degree of autonomy, with the expectation that the postholder will independently manage their workload, research activities, and project objectives.

The postholder will be based at the Centre for Healthcare Innovation and Policy Management and work on collaborative projects supervised by Professor Gregory Maniatopoulos and Dr Gemma Hughes. They will work collaboratively and independently as part of a research team to achieve defined milestones and produce high quality research as part of a wider programme.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Research:

- To undertake the delivery of implementation studies and systematic reviews within national programme evaluations.
- To lead the collection, analysis, and interpretation of research data within qualitative and mixed-methods study designs.
- To apply appropriate methodologies to examine the implementation and evaluation of innovations in health and care settings.
- To manage and deliver collaborative research projects.
- To deliver projects to meet key milestones of the ARC East Midlands.
- To publish research outputs which is assessed as internationally and world leading research as per the University Output Review Policy.
- 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 and 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, including journal articles, technical papers, and reports.
- To contribute to grant funding applications and identify opportunities to apply for fellowships.

Professional Development:

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





Impact and Knowledge Exchange:

- To disseminate and share expertise through communication and public engagement activities.
- To represent the work of the University in the specific field locally and nationally in appropriate networks and/or in public activities.
- To contribute to research impact.

Leadership and Citizenship:

- To provide guidance to other team members both research staff and students.
- To pro-actively build networks and collaborations.
- To provide mentoring and coaching to Early Career Researchers and research students.

Internal and External Relationships

- Regular meetings with members of the 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.
- Establish/maintain collaborations with other researchers at the University of Leicester, nationally and internationally.
- Liaison with external collaborators.
- Disseminate results at national and international conferences.

Planning and Organising

- 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.
- Plan, organise and submit grant applications for further and supplementary funding.

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential

- PhD in health services research, sociology, health psychology, or a related discipline (or close to completion)*
- Knowledge of health and/or social care sector and NHS policy*
- Experience in, research project management*
- Experience of qualitative and quantitative methods*
- Experience of qualitative and quantitative data analysis*
- Experience of leading the write-up of applied health and care research for publication in high-quality journals*
- Understanding of national health policy and current priorities relating to health and care research within the NHS*
- Experience of recruiting research sites and individuals*
- Experience of obtaining ethical and research approvals*





Desirable

- Experience of conducting participatory and/ or co-produced qualitative research
- Experience of collaborative research working and stakeholder engagement in research
- Experience of planning and conducting patient and public involvement in research
- Experience of obtaining external research grant funding
- Track record of publication of high-quality journal papers rated at 4* (or equivalent)
- Experience in design and conduct of high-quality systematic reviews

Skills, Abilities and Competencies

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

****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

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

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.

