



**Job Title:** Senior Research Adviser in Quantitative Research Methods  
**Grade:** 8  
**Salary:** £44,045 to £49,553 per annum pro rata  
**Department:** NIHR Research Design Service East Midlands, Department of Health Sciences  
**Hours/Contract:** Part time negotiable hours between 0.4FTE (15 hours per week) and 0.6FTE (22.5 hours per week)  
**Contract:** Fixed-term contract until 30 September 2023  
**Reference:** 2074

## Role Purpose

We are seeking a highly motivated researcher to join the NIHR Research Design Service (RDS) in the Department of Health Sciences at University of Leicester.

You will provide clear, expert and authoritative methodological advice and design support to research teams throughout the East Midlands; assisting them to develop high quality funding applications to national, peer-reviewed funding schemes for health and social care research.

You will have exceptional expertise in a variety of quantitative research designs and methods, outstanding communication and consultancy skills, and a proven ability to contribute to the development of successful funding applications.

You will also have expertise in statistics, health economics and/or epidemiology and be able to advise researchers in a variety of quantitative designs, methods and approaches.

Using highly developed research consultancy skills, you will:

- Focus research ideas and refine research questions
- Advise on timeliness and sustainability of research plans
- Help researchers to design complex clinical, health service and social care research studies
- Propose appropriate data collection tools and strategies
- Advise on appropriate sampling strategies
- Advise on appropriate analytic strategies and methods
- Identify suitable funding sources and ensure studies are well justified and within remit
- Build appropriately skilled research teams
- Engage other research infrastructure and support units as appropriate
- Assist in the development of clear and compelling applications for research funding
- Contribute to the development of the RDS locally, regionally and nationally

## Main Duties and Responsibilities

- Face-to-face and other online meetings with academic and NHS researchers
- Independent work on behalf of clients on research designs and funding applications
- Participation in research panels and team meetings and discussion with RDS East Midlands colleagues about research designs and funding applications
- Develop and deliver events, workshops, and occasional seminars for health researchers to promote good methodological design, and awareness of the RDS





- Lead and support RDS-related objectives and milestones
- Represent RDS East Midlands at local, regional, and national meetings

**Internal and External Relationships**

- Consult with and support researchers at all levels, both internally and externally, in relation to the support services of RDS East Midlands
- Liaise with other researchers in the Department of Health Sciences and the wider University
- Build relationships with researchers and organisations who might use the services of the RDS
- Liaise with methodologists across the country as required including colleagues from other Research Design Services
- Help to establish and maintain links with local NHS, social care, public health and National Institute for Health Research groups, units, and networks

**Planning and Organising**

- Support applications for new project funding, including arranging and leading meetings between researchers, advisors and, when appropriate, other researchers with specialist knowledge
- Initiate, develop and lead events to support high-quality bid development and publicise research funding opportunities in health research
- Play an active role in reviewing consultancy and advice-giving to ensure that provision is fit for purpose
- Contribute to the planning and delivery of service improvement projects locally, regionally and nationally

**Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience**

**Essential**

- A first degree involving a statistical or economic component\*
- PhD or other postgraduate qualification (or equivalent experience) as well as substantial research experience and skills in medical statistics, health economics or epidemiology\*
- Deep understanding and significant experience of the role of statistics in applied health research, with wide-ranging knowledge of alternative data collection methods\*
- Track record of peer-reviewed publications using qualitative and/or quantitative methods\*
- Track record of supporting research applications to major funders of health research\*
- Experience of writing or contributing to successful research applications\*

**Desirable**

- Experience in relevant research models, techniques and methods with the ability to develop new ones within area of expertise\*





## Skills, Abilities and Competencies

### Essential

- High level of proficiency in English\*
- Exceptional consultancy and presentation skills\*
- Exceptional written communication skills\*
- Excellent interpersonal skills including effective communications with people from i) different scientific disciplines, and ii) different institutions across the country
- Strong work ethic and ability to work effectively as part of a team and independently
- Excellent time management and organisational skills with the ability to work to tight deadlines
- Ability to engage and communicate with non-researchers
- Good IT skills, including use of Microsoft Office applications, e-mail and the internet
- Ability to work flexibly as required and to cope with change

***\*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.

## VITAL

The University encourages all staff to live our [VITAL values](#) which are:  
**Valuing People, Innovators, Together, Accountable, Leaders.**

## Equality and Diversity

We believe that equality, 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.

