

Job Title: Qualitative Researcher

Who We Are:

By 2050, the global urban population will nearly double to 6.4 billion. This unprecedented growth in the global urban population creates incredible opportunities but also intensifies the most difficult problems cities face, such as concentrated poverty, crime, poor-quality schooling, and pollution. The University of Chicago founded Urban Labs to help address these challenges. Urban Labs is a set of highly synergistic labs focused on undertaking inquiry and having impact on five essential dimensions of urban life: *crime, education, health, poverty, and energy & environment*. Urban Labs partners with cities to identify and rigorously evaluate the policies and programs with the greatest potential to improve human lives at scale. Urban Labs' evidence-based approach gives policymakers and practitioners the knowledge they need to effectively achieve the greatest social good per dollar spent.

In sum, UChicago Urban Labs:

- Identifies promising solutions to urban challenges
- Tests the most promising urban policies and programs
- Scales-up the most effective and cost-efficient policies and programs

For more information about the UChicago Urban Labs, go to <http://urbanlabs.uchicago.edu/>

Job Summary:

The UChicago Crime Lab and Education Lab are seeking an experienced Qualitative Researcher to support the implementation evaluation of READI Chicago, a large-scale transitional jobs and cognitive behavioral therapy program targeted at individuals at highest risk of gun violence involvement.

The Qualitative Researcher will work with the READI team to help design and execute a qualitative research strategy that includes observations of program providers, longitudinal interviews with program participants, and surveys. The Qualitative Researcher will be responsible for conducting primary data collection and leading qualitative data analysis. READI is a high-stakes, high visibility project with a multitude of stakeholders and implementing partners across five community areas; as such, this position requires an individual who can facilitate data collection in a variety of modes effectively and with good judgment. Prior experience living or working in the community areas in which READI operates is strongly encouraged, as is prior experience conducting longitudinal interviews or managing large-scale qualitative data collection on sensitive topic areas such as violence, stress, and trauma. This position requires an individual who is able to work well as part of a large research team. i

Responsibilities:

- Help to develop and execute a qualitative research strategy for the implementation evaluation of READI Chicago
- Work with the larger research team to coordinate on data collection efforts that interact with the impact evaluation

- Oversee and coordinate observations of program providers and participant survey protocol development and administration
- Lead efforts to collect, compile, validate, interpret, and analyze qualitative data using standard practices and techniques
- Conduct longitudinal interviews with a subsample of participants
- Write proposals and deliverables as needed, including preparing results for memos and presentations targeting both policymakers and academic researchers
- Maintain and check the accuracy of data
- Manage and train staff to help collect qualitative data
- Other duties as assigned.

Competencies:

- Strong interest in social policy required.
- Strong qualitative skills required.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills required.
- Ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously and meet tight deadlines required.
- Excellent organizational skills and attention to detail required.
- Ability to work both independently and as a team member required.
- Ability to work discretely with sensitive and confidential data required.
- Knowledge and understanding of crime policy, violence and/or education research literature strongly preferred.

Education:

- Doctoral degree in sociology, public policy, or a closely related field strongly preferred.

Experience:

- Experience living in or working in READI Chicago community areas including Austin, West Garfield Park, North Lawndale, and Greater Englewood.
- 5-7 years of research experience strongly preferred. Experience gained in school counts towards requirement.
- Experience working with vulnerable populations for qualitative data collection.
- Familiarity or experience with field experiments preferred.
- Experience overseeing large-scale qualitative data collection strongly preferred.
- Strong qualitative interviewing skills required.

Technical Knowledge or Skills:

- Experience in NVivo, Atlas, or comparable software required.

Required Documents:

- Resume
- Cover Letter
- A writing sample, preferably a manuscript highlighting qualitative data work
- Unofficial Transcript

To Apply: please submit a resume, cover letter, a writing sample (preferably a manuscript highlighting qualitative data work), and an unofficial Transcript to workday, requisition number **JR01317**. **NOTE:** When applying, all required documents **MUST** be uploaded under the **Resume/CV** section of the application.

If you have an active UChicago Workday employee account, you will need to complete the Internal Candidate application process. Internal Candidate instructions: [Log into Workday](#) and select the career worklet.

External Candidates should apply to the position at <https://uchicago.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/External>

If you have questions about the Workday application system, please contact: https://uchicago.service-now.com/sso?id=ssc_sc_cat_item&sys_id=cf359d671316660030c0bc0cf3244b02d.

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, protected veteran status or status as an individual with disability.

The University of Chicago is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.