

Field Study Research Assistant (Temporary)

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/>

Role:

The University of Chicago Crime Lab and Education Lab are currently seeking research assistants to administer mental health and behavioral assessment surveys for our evaluation of a school-based, trauma-informed group counseling program for young women. The data collected will allow us to understand the impact of this program for adolescent girls on outcomes such as mental health, risky behaviors, and academic engagement. Surveying will take place in Chicago Public Schools (CPS) high schools across the city. Research assistants will work closely with UChicago Crime and Education Lab staff, led by Dr. Harold Pollack of the University of Chicago and Dr. Jonathan Guryan of Northwestern University.

Primary Responsibilities:

- Assist in obtaining consent from parents and participants, and managing consent and assent forms; lead assent processes with students prior to surveying
- Communicate and interact with school officials and the research team to coordinate surveying times and locations
- Administer surveys to high-school aged girls at various CPS sites; surveying sites will likely change weekly or bi-weekly
- Clearly explain study goals and protocols to parents and participants, and answer any questions that may arise
- Implement appropriate protocols to assist students who may need emotional or psychological support following survey administration
- Securely manage and transport survey materials and responses from schools to research staff after each shift
- Complete survey response data entry as needed

Work Schedule:

- Available Week of September 4, 2017 – December 15, 2017 (end date flexible)
- Available up to 10 hours per week; weekly hours will fluctuate depending on need
- Will need regular availability during after school hours (from between 2 and 5PM) for approximately 4-5 weeks. The remaining hours can be flexible.

Education:

- Master's level students or recent graduates in Social Work

Experience:

- Prior experience working with sensitive populations, including female adolescents and/or victims of trauma and violence
- Prior experience with fieldwork/data collection and/or experience collecting clinical mental health data
- Prior experience administering clinical assessments, such as the Behavioral Assessment System for Children (BASC), preferred but not required

Competencies:

- Willing and able to travel to CPS high schools across the city, including schools in various South and West Side community areas. Personal vehicle a plus, but reimbursement for taxis, ride sharing, and transit can be provided.
- Comfortable working in a mental health-focused setting and working in schools
- Discretion in handling confidential or sensitive information, such as Protected Health Information (PHI)
- Human Subjects Training, Mandatory Reporter Training, and other relevant experience preferred but not required
- Complete CPS background check to work in schools

To Apply:

Please submit a cover letter, resume, and transcript to Molly Clark at mollyclark@uchicago.edu.

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