Postdoctoral Research Fellow Position

The Children’s Learning Institute (CLI) within the UTHealth Department of Pediatrics seeks a candidate who possesses and demonstrates interest and skills in one of the following topics: (1) measure development, scaling and validation via Item Response Theory, (2) program or intervention assessment and evaluation, and/or (3) education policy. The Postdoctoral Research Fellow will work primarily with the Data Analysis Working Group (DAWG) faculty: Dr. Yoonkyung Oh, and Dr. Janelle Montroy, as well as a team of statisticians, scholars and practitioners on aspects of data collection, statistical analyses, dissemination through publications and presentations, and the development of grant applications.

The Postdoctoral Research Fellow will contribute to and, in some cases, lead analyses for: intervention projects designed to improve child development outcomes; supporting state assessment and initiatives around teacher professional development; and/or student assessment and student skill development, with a focus on early childhood. Currently the DAWG is involved in multiple projects to evaluate: the effects of intervention on premature toddler’s brain and behavioral development, the effects of a STEM intervention to increase children’s interest in and knowledge of STEM, the scaling and validation of an integrated progress monitoring and screening system for preschool through second grade students, and on-going teacher professional development and coaching. In addition to engaging in DAWG activities, the Postdoctoral Research Fellow will also be asked to work with DAWG and other CLI researchers to establish their own research agenda within CLI’s focus on maximizing the potential of every child via learning and development solutions that deliver effective results, based on scientific research.

The Postdoctoral Research Fellow will work with DAWG and other CLI researchers to apply advanced applied methodologies to potentially: evaluate treatment effects and individual differences in response to treatment, scale and validate student assessments, evaluate student progress longitudinally, and/or individual differences in student development and progress (based on applicant interests). The applicant will also contribute to on-going grant applications including power analyses, co-author peer-reviewed publications and reports to state and local partners, and present research at national conferences. In addition, applicants will be expected to develop their own grant application, and to develop a manuscript as a first author.

We will give preference to candidates with strong applied methodology and statistical skills, including experience with randomized clinical trials and intervention, and/or measurement development, and/or longitudinal analysis. Because CLI is a collaborative, grant-supported center, we are seeking a person who is excited to be part of a dynamic, diverse, and motivated group, and who is driven by a desire to produce both rigorous and policy-relevant research aimed at improving child development outcomes for all children.

Minimum Requirements:

• Applicants must have a Ph.D. in a relevant discipline (e.g., Measurement, quantitative methods, education, public policy, social sciences, or another related field).

• To be competitive for the position, the applicant must have demonstrable expertise in applied, advanced statistical methods and research related to child development, education, or school related public policy.
• Ability to lead analytic activities, preparing or reviewing analysis deliverables, data management, and communicating with co-researchers and external representatives.

• Ability to prepare technical and methodology reports, proposals, and other documentary deliverables

• Applicants must have demonstrated experience in SAS, and/or Mplus.

• The applicant must have a record of research productivity through publications and presentations.

• Applicants should be able to work both independently and as a collaborative team member.

Required Degree:

• Doctorate – PhD in relevant discipline Desired Qualifications:

• Interest in child development and/or education policy and/or student assessment development

• Experience working on large scale, team projects

• Excellent interpersonal, verbal and written communication

• Strong organizational skills and experience coordinating data management and analysis activities

Required Application Materials:

Interested applicants should submit the following materials to Dr. Janelle J. Montroy Janelle.j.montroy@uth.tmc.edu:

(1) A cover letter detailing the applicant’s research interests and fit with the position,

(2) Curriculum vitae

(3) Scholarly writing sample, and

(4) Names and contact information for three references.

The position renews yearly for up to two years and the salary will commensurate based on education and experience.

UTHealth is committed to providing equal opportunity in all employment-related activities without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, gender identity or expression, veteran status or any other basis prohibited by law or university policy. Reasonable accommodation, based on disability or religious observances, will be considered in accordance with applicable law and UTHealth policy. The University maintains affirmative action programs with respect to women, minorities, individuals with disabilities, and eligible veterans in accordance with applicable law.