Position Announcement
Researcher
(Requisition 0473)

GENERAL SUMMARY

[Chapin Hall](#) is an independent policy research center at the University of Chicago that provides public and private decision-makers with rigorous research and achievable solutions to support them in improving the lives of children, families, and communities. Chapin Hall partners with policymakers, practitioners, and philanthropists at the forefront of research and policy development by applying a unique blend of scientific research, real-world experience, and policy expertise to construct actionable information, practical tools, and, ultimately, positive change for children, youth, and families. Chapin Hall's unwavering partnership mindset is also demonstrated in its commitment to employees by fostering a collaborative and innovative work environment, at all times, that is committed to reflecting diversity and inclusion in its culture, projects, and workforce. Established in 1985, Chapin Hall's areas of research include child welfare systems, community capacity to support children and families, and youth homelessness. For more information about Chapin Hall, visit www.chapinhall.org or @Chapin_Hall. Also take a moment and view this [video clip](#) from various staff regarding why they enjoy working at Chapin Hall.

Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago is seeking a researcher to work with a team on projects that generate data analytics and evidence to inform decision-making by public and private child-serving agencies, including child welfare and juvenile justice systems across the country. Projects focus on the analytic activities necessary to inform system planning and decision-making, including predictive risk modeling, latent class analysis, geospatial gap analysis, and other forms of analytic support. These analysis generate actionable evidence to guide the implementation of new initiatives including the Family First Preventive Services Act (FFPSA). Project methods may vary but include literature reviews, survey administration, and analysis of administrative data.

The Researcher's primary responsibilities include: Serving as the analytic project lead for more than one project at a time, facilitating meetings, developing and implementing data collection protocols, identifying appropriate analytic strategies, participating in research team discussions, conducting analyses of quantitative and qualitative data, consulting to the development of technological applications, and translating research findings into actionable policy guidance. Other tasks include conducting reviews and analysis of relevant literature and documents, guiding analysts' in analytic tasks, assisting with protocol development and IRB submissions, and writing sections of reports and helping produce other project deliverables.

The position will report directly to Dana Weiner, Policy Fellow.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

The primary responsibilities of the position are as follows:

- Contributes to the intellectual and scientific development of research studies and data

analytics including the development of study design and methods.

- Serves as the primary liaison for stakeholders participating in studies, and overseeing the transfer and linkage of administrative data for analysis.

- Translates research and analytic findings into actionable evidence and implications for system planning.

- Conducts analyses of quantitative and qualitative data, and may direct research and/or policy staff in analytic tasks.

- Writes sections of research results.

- Develops and delivers presentations of findings to diverse audiences.

- Assists with Institutional Review Board submissions.

- Represents Chapin Hall and its research agenda and establishes important stakeholder relationships, especially with partner agencies.

- Performs additional duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS

Education
A doctoral degree in public policy, psychology, statistics, education, public health, sociology or another relevant field OR a master's degree plus a minimum of five years of relevant, post-degree experience required.

Experience & Other Qualifications

- A minimum of three years of experience with program evaluation, policy analysis, or evaluation work that cuts across or is at the intersection of multiple social service systems required.

- Experience conducting analyses of quantitative and qualitative data

- Strong knowledge of quantitative approaches to data analysis, including predictive modeling, machine learning, and latent class analysis.

- Knowledge of qualitative research methods, including the ability to develop data collection protocols required and conduct systematic reviews of literature.

- Strong interpersonal skills, with the ability to effectively manage key stakeholder relationships required.

- Strong communications skills with the ability to translate and convey complex concepts

and study findings in oral and written communications required.

- Strong project management skills, with the ability to manage multiple, concurrent tasks required.

- Problem-solving and analytic skills required.

- Demonstrated capacity for working in a collaborative research environment required.
- Ability to work independently with a high degree of initiative required.

- Demonstrated judgment and discretion in the handling of sensitive information required.

- Working knowledge of R, Stata, Atlas-ti, NVIVO, or other data analytic software preferred.

MINIMUM PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Chapin Hall is committed to ensuring the health and safety of our staff. We continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation closely and follow U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance. During this time travel is suspended.

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

- Must be able to remain in a stationary position for extended periods of time.
- Must be able to operate a computer extensively for four (4) or more hours per day.
- Must be able to travel locally and nationally.

Pre-employment background checks are required for all Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago positions.

To express interest in this opening, please visit https://csschcc.sentrichr.com.

Formal expressions of interest are accepted online only. A cover letter, resume, writing sample, and reference contact information are required to be considered for this position.

Individuals in need of reasonable accommodations to complete the application process should contact Human Resources by calling (773) 256-5157, or by sending an email to humanresources@chapinhall.org.

Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity Employer that values and actively seeks diversity in its workforce. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, status as an individual with disability, age, protected veteran status, or any other status protected by law.