

Job Title: Research Assistant
Grade: 6
Salary: £33,662 - £38,448 per annum
Department: Physics
Hours/Contract: Full time fixed term contract until 31 March 2029
Job Family: Teaching and Research
Job Reference: 13638

Role Purpose

The post holder will deliver the community-based human exposure component of the CLEAR-IT study, investigating the impact of indoor air pollution on respiratory health. The role focuses on participant recruitment, coordination and conduct of home visits, preparation and deployment of indoor air sampling equipment, and collection of human exposure and physiological data. The post holder will work with a high degree of independence in the field and will play a central role in ensuring high-quality, ethically robust data collection across a diverse population.

This is an on-site, field-based post, based at Space Park Leicester. A typical working day involves collecting equipment and colleagues from Space Park in north Leicester, then carrying out two to three home visits, travelling between participants' homes across Leicester, Leicestershire and the surrounding area, before returning and recording data. Visits may take place at times that suit participants, so some flexibility in working hours may be required. Daily travel by car is a core requirement of the role, including transporting sampling equipment. A full UK driving licence is essential, and applicants must hold one at the time of application.



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Main Duties and Responsibilities

Research

- Recruit households into the CLEAR-IT study, including explaining the study, obtaining informed consent, maintaining participant engagement and coordinating participation across the study period.
- Plan and carry out multiple home visits each day (typically two to three), to install, check and retrieve indoor air monitoring and sampling equipment, and collect respiratory and exposure-related measurements.
- Travel between participants' homes and the base location, transporting equipment and colleagues.
- Prepare, test, deploy and retrieve indoor air sampling equipment and associated consumables, and maintain equipment and usage records.
- Ensure accurate labelling, recording, storage and transfer of samples and metadata, maintaining study records in compliance with data protection, research governance and quality standards.
- Contribute to study meetings, fieldwork reporting and progress updates, and support the preparation of internal documentation and research outputs as required.

Professional Development:

- Duties and opportunities to engage in work that support your own professional development.

Impact and Knowledge Exchange:

- Participate in workshops and conferences to support the dissemination of research findings.

Leadership and Citizenship:

- Contribute to the effective delivery of the CLEAR-IT research program.

Internal and External Relationships

Communicate and liaise regularly with colleagues and collaborators involved in the CLEAR-IT programme and related projects to plan, coordinate and review research activities. Communicate with manager and project team on a regular basis to discuss ongoing fieldwork issues, health and safety matters, and future plans.

Planning and Organising

With guidance from the Principal Investigator, or equivalent, plan own work and prioritise research and project activities on a regular basis, including co-ordinating resources and maintenance of samples and equipment.



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- Plan and schedule home visits and travel routes efficiently around participants' availability and reorganise at short notice when visits are cancelled or plans change.
- The post-holder will be required to effectively manage their time to deliver on the priorities of the research programme with the support of their line manager.
- Attend suitable training courses or equivalent and be proactive in terms of continued professional development.

Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential

- Honours degree or equivalent relevant experience in a health, environmental, biological or related discipline *
- Practical experience of working on clinical research studies involving human participants, such as participant recruitment, informed consent and the collection of clinical data or samples *
- Experience of collecting data or samples in community or non-laboratory settings *
- Full UK driving licence (held at the time of application) and the ability and willingness to drive daily to multiple participant homes, including transporting equipment *

Desirable

- Experience of home-based or field-based research
- Experience working with diverse or underserved populations

Skills, Abilities and Competencies

Essential

- Ability to demonstrate research potential and enthusiasm for the subject area and contribute to delivering high-quality research *
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to engage participants in their own homes *
- Ability to prioritise tasks and plan a busy schedule of home visits and travel within agreed work schedules *
- Evidence of continued personal development of subject expertise
- Commitment to continuous professional development (CPD)
- Willingness to participate in workshops and conferences to support the dissemination of results and findings

****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.



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Criminal Declaration and Disclosure and Barring Service

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.

This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 because the appointee will have substantial access to young people and/or vulnerable adults. Therefore, an appointment to this post will be subject to checking through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). The successful applicant for this post will, therefore, be required to give consent for the University to check and obtain appropriate clearance with the DBS for the existence and content of any criminal record in the form of an [enter level of disclosure].

Information received from the DBS and the police will be kept in strict confidence and will be destroyed once the University is satisfied in this regard.

Supporting University Activities

As a University of Leicester citizen, you are encouraged to support key university activities such as clearing, graduation ceremonies, student registration and recruitment open days. We encourage all staff as citizens to work flexibly across the University if required. If supporting these activities is likely to affect your workload, please speak to your line manager in the first instance

University Values

Inclusive - We are diverse in our makeup and united in ambition. Our diversity is our strength and makes our community stronger.

Inspiring - We are passionate about inspiring individuals to succeed and realise their ambitions. We challenge our community to think differently, to get involved, and to constantly embrace new ideas.

Impactful - As Citizens of Change we will generate new ideas which deliver impact and empower our community

Freedom of Speech

The University is committed to upholding freedom of speech and academic freedom within the law throughout our recruitment processes. We ensure that all candidates are considered based on merit and suitability for the role, without regard to their lawful viewpoints or the expression of challenging or controversial ideas. Our recruitment policies and practices are designed to protect applicants from discrimination or adverse treatment on the basis of their opinions, and to foster an environment where open debate and diverse perspectives are valued as essential to our academic mission.

Equity and Diversity

We believe that equity, 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 equity support our efforts to attract a diverse range of high



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quality staff and students, and identify our University as a progressive and innovative workplace that mainstreams equity, diversity and inclusion.



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