

Research Associate, Family Well-Being and Children's Development

MDRC is seeking a Research Associate to join MDRC's team conducting groundbreaking evaluations of programs that are being implemented at scale — with a goal of developing reliable evidence to inform the next generation of governmental and early childhood educational policies and initiatives aimed at improving outcomes for children, adolescents, and their families.

MDRC has a growing research agenda evaluating policies and programs aimed at changing families' economic circumstances, parents' mental health, family relationships, opportunities for adolescent development, or children's early educational experiences.

MDRC is currently conducting two major studies of initiatives seeking to enhance the social and emotional development of children and adolescents: (1) the Supporting Healthy Marriage project is a demonstration and evaluation of couple relationship skills education program targeting low-income married couples with children, and (2) the Head Start CARES project is testing the effects and implementation of a set of evidence-based strategies to improve the social and emotional development of children in Head Start classrooms. In addition, the successful candidate will play a lead intellectual and management role in major new studies of early childhood interventions aimed at improving long-term outcomes for low-income children in New York City and nationally.

MDRC nurtures the best work of researchers by offering them:

- A commitment to rigorous research that brings together diverse teams of scholars reflecting a variety of viewpoints and cross-fertilization of ideas to ask and to answer pressing academic and policy questions.
- The opportunity to develop cutting-edge solutions to current challenges in program evaluation.
- Support for interdisciplinary and cross-institutional scholarship.
- Publication in peer-reviewed journals and dissemination of results to policy audiences.
- A strong tradition of staff collaboratively setting our research agenda in a collegial environment.

Qualifications:

The successful candidate for this position will have expertise in evaluating the effects of government policies and programs on outcomes for low-income children and adolescents. We welcome inquiries from developmental psychologists, applied economists with an interest in child and family outcomes, and scholars in related fields.

- A PhD in developmental psychology, economics, or related quantitative social science.
- Knowledge of and experience with quantitative research design and analytic methods.
- Expertise in the theory of children's and adolescents' development and/or family well-being and a deep understanding of social and contextual influences affecting these outcomes.
- Experience with design of surveys and/or direct observational assessments a plus.
- Excellent written, oral, and interpersonal communication skills.

- Strong desire to work in a highly collaborative and collegial environment.
- Publication record or experience demonstrating a capacity to provide leadership in developing the research agenda of this policy area.
- Bilingual (fluent in Spanish and English) a plus.

The position will be based in MDRC's New York office. Depending on the candidate's interests and qualifications, the Research Associate position could be structured as a two-year postdoctoral position or a longer-term position. Salary will be commensurate with experience. Comprehensive fringe benefits offered.

To apply, mail, fax, or email your resume to:

MDRC
Human Resources Department
[9002-14] F & C Research Associate
16 East 34th Street, 19th Floor
New York, NY 10016
Fax: 212-532-8453
Email: jobs@mdrc.org

Only candidates selected for further consideration will be contacted.

As an Equal Opportunity Employer, MDRC strongly encourages minorities, women, people with disabilities, and veterans to apply. Legal work authorization required.