

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

MDRC is seeking a Senior Research Associate/Senior Fellow to join MDRC's leadership team and to lead 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.

Senior researchers at MDRC play a central role in setting priorities and shaping the research agenda for their field of study; conducting rigorous experimental and quasi-experimental program evaluation research; representing MDRC as national leaders in evaluation research; cultivating and sustaining relationships with individuals in academia, government, funders, and service delivery organizations; and providing leadership and mentorship to develop the skills of staff within the area. We welcome inquiries from developmental psychologists, applied economists with an interest in child and family outcomes, and scholars in related fields.

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 leadership role in shaping 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:

Successful candidates will have a track record of excellence in leading large-scale program evaluations using random assignment or other rigorous quasi-experimental research methods. Candidates will have demonstrated intellectual leadership in his/her field through scholarly

research and publications and a track record of influencing researchers, stakeholders, policymakers, and practitioners.

- A PhD in developmental psychology, economics, or related quantitative social science and 6+ years of experience with rigorous experimental and quasi-experimental research methods used to conduct program evaluations and to inform children's and adolescents' developmental processes.
- Expertise in managing and conducting large-scale, complex program evaluations addressing questions of program implementation and impacts and using many different data sources.
- Knowledge of and experience with quantitative research design and analytic methods.
- Expertise in the theory of children's and adolescents' development and a deep understanding of social and contextual influences that affect these outcomes.
- A distinguished record of scholarly research commensurate with being an associate or full professor at an academic institution, demonstrating a capacity to provide leadership in developing the research agenda of this policy area.
- Deep understanding of and ability to engage stakeholders regarding policy issues as well as social and contextual influences on children's development during preschool and early childhood years.
- Strong desire to work in a highly collaborative and collegial environment.
- Excellent written, oral, and interpersonal communication skills.
- Bilingual (fluent in Spanish and English) a plus.

The successful candidate will be based in MDRC's New York office. Salary will be commensurate with experience. Comprehensive fringe benefits offered.

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

MDRC
Human Resources Department
[9002-15] F & C Sr. 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.