

Position Announcement – Search Extended

**Research Specialist (2 positions)**

**Office of Community College Research and Leadership College of Education, Department of Education Policy, Organization and Leadership University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

The Office of Community College Research and Leadership (OCCRL) was established in the College of Education in 1989 at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The mission of the Office is to provide research, leadership, and service to P-20 educators who seek to improve student access to and success in college and careers.

OCCRL seeks two Research Specialists to lead large-scale federally-funded evaluation studies of health sciences and information technology programs of study implemented by national consortia that involve seven to ten community colleges and partner organizations. The positions require experience with mixed-method research and evaluation, including creating relational databases. Primary duties of the positions include:

- Leading mixed method studies to measure program implementation and impact on student education and employment outcomes and to support continuous program improvement.
- Supervising the creation, maintenance, and use of relational databases that include student-level records with education and employment (Unemployment Wage) data.
- Creating data analysis plans, including using and training staff to use SPSS, SAS, and other packages for quantitative analysis and NVivo, ATLAS.ti, and other packages for qualitative analysis.
- Supervising the creation and maintenance of research-related documentation, including human subjects, data sharing agreements, memorandum of understanding (MOU), data dictionaries, and other materials for OCCRL staff and partner colleges.
- Designing and supervising team members' delivery of technical assistance and professional development required by site personnel and other researchers and consultants associated with the project.
- Authoring and co-authoring technical reports and peer-referred publications, including ensuring electronic and web-based materials are posted and maintained on the OCCRL website.
- Identifying issues, challenges, barriers, and facilitating development of solutions.

Successful candidates should have experience leading teams in a collaborative research environment and working closely with K-12 and higher education researchers, administrators, and faculty; federal and state administrative staff; and other related groups. Successful candidates must also have strong writing and oral communication skills and be able to travel in

and out of state to support the evaluation. Candidates should also have experience leading successful grant writing teams.

This is a full-time (100%), 12-month non-tenure track academic professional position. The position is grant-funded and renewal is contingent upon availability of funds.

**Qualifications:**

**Required:** A master's degree in education, statistics, other social science field of study, or a related degree program with 5-7 years experience leading quantitative and qualitative research studies.

**Strongly Preferred:** A doctoral degree in education, statistics, a social science field of study, or related degree program with 2-3 years experience leading quantitative and qualitative research studies.

**Salary/Benefits:**

Salary and benefits are competitive.

**Application Procedures:**

To apply, please complete a candidate profile at <http://jobs.illinois.edu> and submit a letter of application, resume, and names and contact information of at least three references. The review of applications will begin immediately. **Applications are encouraged prior to August 31, 2012; however, no hiring decision will be made until after that date, and consideration will continue until a suitable candidate is identified for the position.**

**Starting Date:**

As soon as possible after closing.

For more information about the position, please contact: Search Committee Chair, Dr. Don Hackmann via e-mail: [dghack@illinois.edu](mailto:dghack@illinois.edu).

The University of Illinois is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. The University of Illinois is strongly committed to achieving excellence through cultural diversity. The University actively encourages applications and nominations of women, minorities, and persons with disabilities.