

Graduate Research Assistant for the Community and Health Inequities Lab at the University of Utah

The Community and Health Inequities Lab is recruiting a graduate research assistant for a .5 FTE (20 hours/week) position. This position will begin in the 2020/2021 academic year, but an earlier start date of summer 2020 could be arranged. The ideal candidate will be enrolled in the Human Development and Social Policy Ph.D. program at the University of Utah (the application deadline is February 1st; see <https://fcs.utah.edu/graduate/prospectivestudents.php>). Desired qualifications include prior experience or a strong interest in quantitative data analysis (including multilevel and spatial modeling techniques); use and management of large health or administrative datasets; and high initiative, conscientiousness, and desire for interdisciplinary collaboration. Applicants should have an interest in determinants of population health as well as health policy or promotion.

Dr. David Curtis directs the Community and Health Inequities Lab and he is currently conducting two major research projects. The first project aims to reveal the social and structural determinants of preterm birth risk among black mothers. These determinants include systemic barriers to healthcare (e.g., too few black physicians, poor spatial access to primary care), residential segregation, economic inequities, and criminal justice factors. The second project includes a large data collection effort of neighborhood recreational spaces (e.g., parks, trails) within the four most populous counties in Utah; these data are being merged with geocoded administrative and health records from the Utah Population Database. A key project goal is to understand connections between access to quality recreational spaces and class-based disparities in weight-related health outcomes. Data are also being used to inform health interventions.

Please email any questions to Dr. Curtis at david.curtis@fcs.utah.edu. Applications for the doctoral program are due February 1st. These applications will include three recommendation letters and a transcript, documents that will be referenced for your research assistantship application. In addition, please send a cover letter detailing your interest and qualifications for the research assistant position directly to Dr. Curtis. Review of applications will begin mid-February.

RELATED INFORMATION: The Family and Consumer Studies Department houses the Human Development and Social Policy doctoral program. Faculty members come from diverse fields including sociology, demography, economics, psychology, family studies, human development, and early childhood education. The University of Utah is a PAC-12, Carnegie RU/VH Research University and Utah's flagship university.

The University is located in beautiful Salt Lake City, which offers an outstanding quality of life in a major metropolitan area of 1.5 million residents, nestled in the foothills of the Wasatch Mountains. Utah's great outdoors are close by, offering activities from world class skiing, hiking, and mountain biking in the spectacular canyons surrounding the city. The city is cosmopolitan with theater, the arts, sports, entertainment and nightlife. The area has received international recognition for its light rail system, downtown, library system, and increasing diversity.

The University of Utah is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer and is committed to diversity in its workforce. In compliance with applicable federal and state laws, University of Utah policy of equal employment opportunity prohibits discrimination on the basis of race or ethnicity, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, veteran status, status as a qualified person with a disability, or genetic information. Individuals from historically underrepresented groups, such as minorities, women, qualified persons with disabilities, and protected veterans are strongly encouraged to apply.

