



Quantitative Intern for a Quasi-Experimental Evaluation of an Arts Education Program

About the Organization

RFA seeks to use research as the basis for the improvement of educational opportunities and outcomes for traditionally underserved and marginalized students. We conduct culturally-responsive and equity focused research and evaluation studies to inform policymakers, practitioners, philanthropy, and the public at local, state, and national levels. We provide our partners with empirical evidence and recommendations they can trust, to guide decisions about programs, policies, and practices. We are passionate about the importance of high-quality education for strengthening students, families, and their communities and the need to advance racial and social justice in the systems that undermine equitable access and success. We believe that all students, families, and communities deserve the resources and supports needed to develop their potential and thrive.

Internship Location

RFA is currently providing challenging, high-quality, and meaningful internship experiences for students through a virtual engagement. To be considered for a remote internship, candidates must reside or have an address in the following states: Colorado, Georgia, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee. RFA cannot offer internships to candidates outside of these states.

Position Description

RFA is the external evaluator of an arts education program called “makeSPACE” that is being implemented in 12 School District of Philadelphia middle schools over the course of three years (2022-25). MakeSPACE provides arts integration professional development for core content area (math, English, science, and social studies) 7th and 8th grade teachers. This project is funded by the U.S. Department of Education via an early-phase Education, Innovation, and Research (EIR) grant.

The project is looking for an intern with an interest in quantitative education research and experimental design to help the RFA team complete a rigorous evaluation of the impact of makeSPACE. The intern will receive on-the-job training in order to support with data analysis, data cleaning, data collection, and research tool development. The intern may also contribute to literature reviews and research design plans. At least 25% of the internship work will be adjusted to cater to the experience, interests, and goals of the intern selected. The intern will have the opportunity to learn and work alongside a mixed-methods team of experienced researchers and to advance their quantitative skills using Stata. Experience working with Stata or a similar statistical software is preferred but not required.

Required Skill Sets and Experience

- A commitment to educational equity and a deep respect for the research participants, School District of Philadelphia students and educators
- Coursework or experience in research methods and/or statistics
- Experience working with quantitative data (such as data analysis, data cleaning, building datasets, or creating tracking systems)
- Interest in learning about evaluation and research design
- Strong written communication for a variety of audiences (fellow researchers, school leaders, teachers)
- Ability to conduct literature reviews, including finding and summarizing research articles
- Comfortable working quickly and efficiently to meet deadlines and possesses the ability to work on multiple projects at once
- Enthusiastic about working collaboratively with staff at all levels of project teams
- Highly skilled in the use of software/programs across multiple platforms, including Microsoft Office

Time Commitment

No less than 15 hours and no more than 20 hours per week

Tech Requirements

To be hired for RFA's remote internship opportunities, you must have access to a personal computer with an up-to-date Mac or Windows operating system, up-to-date antivirus software, a functional webcam and microphone, and a stable internet connection at your residence. If hired, RFA will require a technology check of your remote system to ensure your working environment is compatible with ours.

Other Information

- Fall internships run from September through mid-December.
- Beginning and end dates are based on the needs of the project and the availability of the intern. For this position, interns not receiving work-study will be paid \$15.00 per hour. Only complete applications including Resume & Cover letter will be taken into consideration for the internship hiring.
- Applications will be considered on a rolling basis until this position has been filled.
- Candidates must be authorized to work in the United States.