Graduate Research Assistantships
Minnesota Population Center

Summer 2016 & Academic Year 2016-2017
Job ID 307668

The Minnesota Population Center (www.pop.umn.edu) at the University of Minnesota is recruiting graduate students to work on its U.S. or international demographic data resources. We expect openings on the following projects:

- IPUMS-USA: Census and ACS data (including historical census data development)
- IPUMS-International: International census data
- Integrated Demographic Health Series (IDHS): Demographic and Health Survey data
- U.S. health surveys: Integrated Health Interview Series (IHIS) and new integrated data from Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) and National Youth Tobacco Survey (NYTS)
- National Historical Geographic Information System (NHGIS): Summary data and boundary files for the U.S.

You may find more information and links to these MPC projects at www.popdata.org.

Qualifications

Required: Students must be enrolled in a graduate program at the University of Minnesota. The MPC employs students from the following disciplines: applied economics, economics, geography, history, public affairs, public health, sociology, or other relevant programs. Excellent written and oral communication skills. Excellent computer skills and ability to work in a technical environment. Good interpersonal skills. Reliability and attention to detail. The ability to act independently and as part of a diverse team environment.

Additional Selection Criteria: Knowledge of a major statistical package (Stata, SAS or SPSS). Experience analyzing census or survey microdata. Experience with HTML, Unix, and XML metadata. Use and knowledge of ArcGIS or other GIS software packages (for NHGIS). We are especially interested in recruiting students who could use MPC data in their own research.

Responsibilities

Research assistants will work extensively with social science data of various types, including census and survey data from the United States, historical census data, aggregate data, or spatial data. They will interpret, edit, and format technical documentation. They also will analyze data in a statistical package and record the findings systematically. Some research assistants help to prepare data for distribution through MPC's data dissemination web sites, including coding variables. Other research assistants provide technical support and assistance to MPC data users worldwide. Research assistants are expected to carry out a variety of other tasks as needed for
data and web development, learn new software and techniques as necessary, perform work in a timely manner while being attentive to details, and show initiative in solving problems.

Graduate research assistants generally report to research scientists, senior data analysts, faculty, or other professional staff working on the assigned project. They collaborate with principal investigators, other graduate research assistants, post-doctoral associates, software developers, and other project and Center staff.

**Benefits**
The annual salary for a beginning graduate student on a 50% appointment is approximately $23,338 per year plus tuition and health benefits. These positions are renewable subject to performance and the availability of funds.

**Application Instructions**
Please apply using the University of Minnesota's online employment system; search job opening ID 307668. You will have the opportunity to complete an online application. Click apply and follow the instructions. You must attach a cover letter and resume to your online application.

Your cover letter should explain your interest in our position opening and highlight your relevant skills and abilities. It also should articulate any MPC projects in which you have a special interest and for which you are most qualified.

*The University of Minnesota provides equal access to and opportunity in its program, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.*