Graduate Research Assistant Position #1
National Center on Educational Outcomes
Institute on Community Integration
College of Education and Human Development
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis Campus

Projects: Improving the Validity of Assessments for English Language Learners with Disabilities (IVARED) which is housed at the National Center on Educational Outcomes in 207 Pattee Hall, 150 Pillsbury Dr. SE, Minneapolis campus. IVARED is a consortium of five state departments of education and the National Center on Educational Outcomes. The project will address the validity of assessment results for English language learners (ELLs) with disabilities in statewide accountability assessments through a variety of activities designed to improve assessment systems. These activities will include an examination of the characteristics of the students and their assessment performance, development of recommended assessment participation and accommodations decision-making practices via expert panel input and studies of decision-making, and development of principles to guide the assessment of ELLs with disabilities.

Start date: May 2011
Appointment: One Graduate Research Assistant position at 25%, Level 1, $17.08/hour

Primary Duties:
• Interview teachers and other project staff in person and via web-based conferencing tools. (May require some Minnesota travel)
• Assist with the development of a web-based training module
• Assist in conducting focus groups with teachers about assessment decision-making
• Write project reports

Required Qualifications:
• Current graduate student at the University of Minnesota enrolled in a program related to education or public policy
• Experience working with English language learners or students with disabilities in the U.S. K-12 education system
• Experience with web-based survey design and data analysis.
• Excellent English academic writing skills.

Desired Qualifications:
• Experience conducting focus groups and/or focus group coursework
• Valid Minnesota driver’s license

Other possible duties:
• As assigned by project management team

To apply: Please send an e-mail cover letter to Kristi Liu at kline010@umn.edu (612-626-9061) and Laurene Christensen chri1010@umn.edu (612-624-5832). In the “Subject” line of the e-mail indicate you are applying for GRA position #1. To the e-mail attach a CV, a current transcript, and an academic writing sample.

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