

Volunteer Research Assistant Position Available at the Minneapolis VA Medical Center

The Advancing Research on Mechanisms of Resilience (ARMOR) Project is currently accepting applications to fill several Volunteer Research Assistant (unpaid) positions **on-site** at the Minneapolis VA Medical Center. ARMOR has implemented strict policies and procedures to ensure the safety of on-site staff and volunteers during COVID-19. These precautions include:

- Providing all staff/volunteers space to work independently from others (often in an enclosed office space);
- Sanitation of all workspaces before/after starting a shift;
- Mandatory for all staff/volunteers to be masked on-site;
- Please note: to be processed as a volunteer at the Minneapolis VA Medical Center, you must be able to provide proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 or comply with regular testing requirements.

We are seeking to work with undergraduate students and those recently graduated who are dedicated to gaining applied research experience to advance their career development in the field of clinical psychology or related fields. Those committed to pursuing doctoral training in psychology are especially encouraged to apply.

The ARMOR Project, led by principal investigator Dr. Melissa Polusny, offers the opportunity to join an active team of investigators, including Drs. Scott Sponheim, Nick Davenport, and Shmuel Lissek, focused on studying processes contributing to resilience in military personnel and veterans as well as developing and testing novel interventions for PTSD. Research assistants who join the ARMOR Project will receive extensive training and gain hands on experience conducting a longitudinal cohort study of resilience that includes a laboratory component. For more information about this study, please visit the ARMOR Project website at <http://armor.umn.edu>.

Research assistants will assist the project coordinators and investigator team with a range of research activities to ensure the ARMOR Project runs smoothly. Specific duties include:

- Assisting with preparing for and attending subject recruitment events at National Guard armories (availability on occasional Saturday and Sunday mornings are required to gain this experience);
- Conducting follow-up outreach calls and maintaining contact with participants throughout the longitudinal study;
- Data entry, verification, and data management;
- Conducting literature searches and preparing literature reviews; and
- Assisting with other tasks as needed.

The position is part-time (10 hours per week) and unpaid. Although not a requirement, candidates who are willing and available to volunteer time to the lab during some evening hours (4:30pm-8:30pm) and on weekend days are preferred. Given the extent of training that will be provided for this position, it is expected that Research Assistants commit to the position for a minimum of 10 hours per week for a period of one year or two academic semesters. Successful candidates must commit 2-3 months in the lab as a volunteer prior to applying to receive research credit for lab experience (i.e. PSY4993/5993, CPSY4994).

Preferred Qualifications:

- Minimum GPA of 3.5
- College level education or coursework in psychology or related field (Junior level or higher)
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills via telephone, face-to-face, and electronic media
- Previous customer service work or experience with participants in a research context
- Experience with or interest in working with military personnel or veterans
- Enthusiasm for scientific research!

Our interdisciplinary research team has a strong history providing research experiences for undergraduate and post baccalaureate students interested in pursuing graduate studies in psychology, sociology, data science, and other social sciences fields.

The Minneapolis VA Medical Center is located at the junction of Hiawatha Avenue and Hwy 62 (Crosstown) and has direct access to the Light Rail transit system.

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, CV/resume, and unofficial transcripts via email to:

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