

Title: Research Scientist, TMRS Research Services

Job Type: Regular Full Time

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Req Number: 30243

Location: Iowa City, IA

Relocation available: Yes

Pearson is an international media company with market-leading businesses in education, business information and consumer publishing. Pearson's education business represents about two-thirds of the company, and Penguin publishing and the Financial Times make up the balance. With more than 30,000 employees based in 60 countries, we are a family of businesses that draws on common assets, processes, and shares a common purpose: to help our customers live and learn.

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Duties and Responsibilities

- May serve as the primary technical research contact for a small-to-medium program, or for a portion of a large and complex program.
- Updates and develops new specifications and plans for research analyses.
- May design and conduct analyses for sampling design, DIF analysis, item calibration, linking, and equating.
- Contributes to the description of psychometric designs for projects and testing programs as part of proposals, and may cost the work for smaller-scale proposals.
- Maintains documentation and data files related to research analyses.
- Conducts and collaborates on research that contributes to theory and practice in assessment, learning, instruction and/or the Test and Measurement Services Research Agenda.
- Makes presentations at national and international conferences, (e.g., AERA, NCME, CCSSO, APA, Psychometric Society).
- May present technical information to different audiences, (e.g., client groups or technical advisory committees), with guidance from more senior researchers.
- Designs and conducts research and special studies on behalf of clients.
- Contributes to technical designs for proposals and writes associated text under guidance from more senior researchers.
- Works closely with other researchers, research associates, research assistants, subject-matter experts, and/or the client in different aspects of research programs.
- Works with software developers and QA analysts to ensure the integrity of the data used for research analyses.
- Provides support to and consults with other departments and customers regarding research issues.
- Willingness to travel as necessary.

Education, Knowledge, and Skills

- Doctoral degree in educational measurement, educational psychology, cognitive science or a related field from an accredited institution of higher education and at least one year of relevant job experience, preferably with a complete range of assessment and/or learning and instruction issues that face large scale education programs.
- Ability to effectively apply psychometric techniques - including classical test theory, item response theory, test equating, scaling and linking in a testing program setting.
- Knowledge of and ability to implement computer-adaptive testing methods and techniques.
- Knowledge of and ability to articulate national and state trends in education and their implications for assigned programs.
- Ability to conduct independent research in assessment or applied statistics.
- Strong technical writing skills, as demonstrated through research papers, publications, or technical reports.
- Ability to effectively present and summarize technical information orally and in writing to a variety of audiences.
- Project management skills necessary to lead all research-related aspects of a small-to-medium program or a portion of a large and complex program.
- Communication skills necessary to function effectively as a primary contact with internal project teams and external clients with guidance from more senior researchers.
- Experience with applying software packages and programming languages commonly used in psychometric work or research, (e.g., SAS, PARSCALE, WINSTEPS, BILOG, MULTILOG, S-PLUS, FORTRAN, R).
- Experience with applying programming languages, e.g., Java, C ++