

**Research Faculty (junior to mid-career) Position Northwestern University
Assistant Director, Program on Developmental Mechanisms of Psychopathology**

The Department of Medical Social Sciences (MSS), Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University, invites applications for an Assistant Director of the Developmental Mechanisms of Psychopathology Program, directed by Lauren Wakschlag, PhD. This is a non-tenure eligible position (research assistant to research associate professor). We are seeking an energetic and collaborative developmental scientist with expertise in early childhood psychopathology mechanisms and measurement and an affinity for development/management of research programs. The Assistant Director will work closely with Dr. Wakschlag in leading/overseeing program research activities and operations.

The Assistant Director will be a team scientist who will contribute to and oversee the scientific activities of the Program. S/he will have primary oversight responsibility for: (1) **Team Science Activities.** Engagement in and expansion of ongoing scientific work of the program. This includes collaborating on manuscripts and grant submissions (with specific emphasis determined by applicant interests and program priorities), leading dissemination efforts for developmental measurement tools developed in the program, and linking to MSS-based national developmental science initiatives, such as its ECHO measurement core; and (2) **Research Program Procedures, Workflow & Operations.** Oversight of study managers and research teams, budgets, and regulatory compliance, and development of procedures to improve integration across studies, facilitate public access, and enhance program visibility.

The ideal candidate will have a doctoral degree in developmental psychology or psychopathology, or a related field, and training/experience in interdisciplinary team science, research program development and management. Expertise in multi-modal early childhood assessment, developmental science, and early influences on mental health is optimal, and competence in statistical techniques for developmental science, and experience with NIH grant writing are also strong pluses. A record of scholarly publication and a history of engagement in the conduct of extramurally-funded developmental science research are desirable. S/he will have strong organizational, problem-solving, writing and communication skills, and capability to take initiative and effectively balance competing priorities independently. We seek a candidate who brings a strong skillset in program management including building staff relationships that are both positive and accountable. Candidates who have an entrepreneurial spirit, can think on their feet, work flexibly and nimbly, are creative and energetic, are outstanding managers, and revel in collaboration will be an excellent fit.

The MSS Developmental Mechanisms of Psychopathology Program is a translational research program at the interface of developmental and clinical science, with central emphasis on emergent disruptive behavior pathways. Housing multiple NIH-funded studies, the program is internationally recognized for generating novel paradigms to measure early childhood psychopathology and its mechanisms. In particular, the program has generated innovative observational and survey tools (e.g., Disruptive Behavior Diagnostic Observation Schedule [DB-DOS] and Multidimensional Assessment Profile of Disruptive Behavior [MAP-DB]), to differentiate normative variation from emergent clinical problems in the first five years of life. The program's mechanistic focus investigates how prenatal and early life adverse exposures contribute to early neurodevelopmental abnormalities, using cutting-edge developmentally-sensitive cognitive neuroscience, and behavioral paradigms. Early career scientist Amelie Petitclerc, PhD, leads initiatives to expand the reach of the Developmental Mechanisms Program to policy-relevant early life prevention. The program engages a broad spectrum of collaborators from diverse disciplines with more than a dozen affiliated faculty from across Northwestern, and national and international collaborations. The Department of Medical Social Sciences provides an interdisciplinary academic home for the program, with more than 50 faculty engaged in outcome and measurement science, mechanisms of health and disease, lifespan health promotion and health equity (www.mss.northwestern.edu). The Developmental Mechanisms Program is also a hub for the Northwestern Institute for Innovations in Developmental Sciences (DevSci; <http://devsci.northwestern.edu/>), directed by Dr. Wakschlag. Thus, the candidate will find rich opportunities for interdisciplinary science within the Department and across the University.

Salary and rank commensurate with experience and credentials. This is a full time continuing position. Start date asap. Please send a statement of interest, cv, and names of 4-6 references to Laurie Wakschlag (lauriew@northwestern.edu).

Northwestern University is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer of all protected classes, including veterans and individuals with disabilities. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. Hiring is contingent upon eligibility to work in the United States.