

Medical Social Sciences

Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine Chicago, Illinois

Research Faculty Position: **Measurement Scientist**

Overview

The [Department of Medical Social Sciences](#) (MSS), Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University invites applications for research faculty candidates with strong skills in psychometric analysis. The Department provides a unique scientific home for applied researchers who integrate biomedical and social science approaches to improvement of health and health care delivery across the lifespan (www.mss.northwestern.edu). MSS provides rich resources for conducting research including a broad scientific portfolio with multiple, large scale datasets across the lifespan, biostatistical and health informatics cores, expertise in assessment methods and collaborative relationships across Northwestern's biomedical and life sciences campuses. In particular, MSS and its [Center on Patient-Centered Outcomes](#) within the Institute for Public Health & Medicine has an extensive array of funded research focused on patient-centered outcomes research including outcomes measurement, psychometrics, quality of life, symptom management, and comparative effectiveness research.

We are seeking candidates at the assistant to associate level whose research focuses on health outcomes measure development and evaluation. This position will be on Northwestern University's [research faculty \(non-tenure\) track](#). The ideal candidate will be familiar with both classical and modern test development theory and methods and have expertise in the creation and validation of performance-based and person-reported assessments. Research projects will emphasize new measure development as well as modification of existing measures to expand their applicability to new populations or uses. *We are interested in candidates who have experience collaborating with or managing multidisciplinary teams (e.g., subject matter experts, qualitative scientists, information technology specialists, psychometricians, research staff) to develop measures applicable to pediatric and/or adult populations.* Strong organizational, problem-solving, writing and communication skills, capability to address day to day tasks and manage competing priorities independently, and collaborative orientation are requisite. Salary and rank will be commensurate with experience and credentials. This is a full time continuing position. Start date is as soon as the position is filled.

Project Role

The position will support instrument development and validation activities. The Measurement Scientist will work with a multidisciplinary team to plan and implement instrument development protocols, including performance of any necessary qualitative work (e.g., cognitive interviews), pilot and feasibility testing, item calibration, validation, norming and technical requirement specification. He/she will participate in generation of supporting documentation (e.g., administration and scoring procedures, technical manuals). The Measurement Scientist will work on a portfolio of grant-funded projects supporting most of his/her salary.

Grant-funded Projects

MSS faculty maintain a funding portfolio that is diverse with respect to population and disease focus. The candidate will be funded under projects that are suited to his/her experience and expertise, including but not limited to National Institutes of Health (NIH) Environmental influences on Child Health Outcomes (ECHO) Program (MPI: Gershon, R. and Cella, D.) and projects in the area of cognitive aging. The candidate is expected to provide measurement expertise to these projects. The candidate will be encouraged to contribute to additional grant applications, but is not required to submit future grants as PI.

Qualifications

This position is open to individuals who have completed a Ph.D. program in psychology, sociology, education, or health science. Candidates should have experience with measurement development and a strong record of scholarly publication. Familiarity with statistical and psychometric analysis methods and health outcomes research is preferred but not required. Candidates with experience in educational testing are encouraged to apply.

Interested applicants should contact:
Richard Gershon, Ph.D. c/o Marcella Clark
Department of Medical Social Sciences
Northwestern University
mss@northwestern.edu

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled.

Send by e-mail the following: 1) a letter of interest including professional goals and areas of research interest; 2) a curriculum vita; 3) names and contact information for 4 references, and 4) representative reprints of publications or submitted manuscripts.

In the subject line of the e-mail please include "**Measurement Scientist**"

Final candidates will be interviewed by phone or in person and will be required to produce 4 letters of recommendation. For junior candidates, the work contract will be contingent upon receiving a letter from the Ph.D. program's director stating that all requirements for the Ph.D. have been successfully completed.

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.