

## Medical Social Sciences

### **Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine**

Chicago, Illinois

#### **Research Associate Position: Measure Developer**

##### **Overview**

The Department of Medical Social Sciences (MSS), Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University invites applications for a research associate position as Measure Developer.

We are seeking candidates at the associate level whose research focuses on health outcomes measure development and evaluation. The ideal candidate will be familiar with the creation and validation of performance-based and person-reported assessments. Preference will be given to candidates who are also capable of using both classical and modern test development theory and methods. 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 position. Start date is as soon as the position is filled.

##### **Project Role**

The position will support instrument development and validation activities. The Measure Developer 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. S/he will participate in generation of supporting documentation (e.g., administration and scoring procedures, technical manuals). Depending on the available skillset, this person may also lead the data management and analysis team involved in querying, extracting, managing and analyzing multiple, complex datasets ensuring data integrity, quality, and timeliness of results, or s/he will work with a statistical analyst to summarize these results for the full measure development team. He or she will oversee the deployment of reporting and analytical solutions and will serve on related committees and task forces. The Measurement Developer will also 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 Measurement Developer position will be funded under projects that are suited to his/her experience and expertise, including but not limited to the Mobile and Baby Toolbox project (PI: Richard Gershon). The candidate is expected to provide measurement expertise to these projects. The candidate will be encouraged to contribute to additional grant applications.

##### **Qualifications**

This position is open to individuals who have completed a Masters and/or Ph.D. program in psychology, sociology, education, or health science. Candidates should have experience with measurement development. 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, PhD c/o Magda Kupczyk  
Department of Medical Social Sciences  
Northwestern University  
[magdalena.kupczyk@northwestern.edu](mailto:magdalena.kupczyk@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 and 2) a curriculum vita.

In the subject line of the e-mail please include **“Measure Developer position”**

Final candidates will be interviewed by phone or in person and will be required to produce 4 letters of recommendation.

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.

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](http://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 care, symptom management, and comparative effectiveness research.