



Building Capacity in Military-Connected Schools

Building Capacity for Military Connected Schools (Building Capacity) at the USC School of Social Work is looking for two experienced doctoral students to work in collaboration with an interdisciplinary team of researchers on a variety of mixed method research and program evaluation projects.

Time commitment is approximately 20 hours per week. Pay is commensurate with experience and competitive. Expected start date is January 2012. Occasional travel to San Diego and Riverside counties is required.

Project Description

Building Capacity is a four year \$7.6 million Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) funded partnership. The Building Capacity Consortium is a partnership between the University of Southern California and eight military-connected schools districts in San Diego and Riverside counties. The consortium aims to create sustainable and replicable infrastructures for data-driven models of responsive and supportive schools. School staff, students, and parents are being empowered to use evidence to improve school climate and address military students' unique needs and circumstances. Click on this link to visit the website: <http://buildingcapacity.usc.edu/>

Job Responsibilities

- Conduct background research for projects; succinctly summarize large amounts of secondary research
- Foreground and implement qualitative research projects consistent with project goals and evaluation needs
- Develop protocols consistent with data collection plan (e.g. interview protocols, focus group protocols, documents, field notes, etc.)
- Oversee quantitative/qualitative data collection and analyses in collaboration with other members of the research team (primarily student workers)
- Manage and mentor undergraduate and graduate (master's) student workers
- Initiate and maintain project timelines
- Proactively identify challenges and provide recommendations for how to make projects run more smoothly
- Assist with preliminary/basic quantitative analyses (as needed)

Desired Skills

- Problem solving skills are a must. Schedule flexibility preferred
- Exhibits clear ownership and personal responsibility with all projects and tasks assigned
- Interest in both qualitative and quantitative research
- Excellent PowerPoint skills and ability to create slides/graphs/charts that convey key research findings in meaningful and innovative ways
- Knowledge of Atlas.ti and/or other qualitative data analysis software
- Knowledge and experience with SPSS or other quantitative data analysis software
- Attention to detail
- Excellent writing/communication skills
- Strong organizational/logistics skills

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- Quick learner
- Ability to work both independently and as part of a team
- Ability to take a big picture idea and run with it
- Ability to independently solve problems
- Personal accountability and strong work ethic
- Professional, able to interact with vendors/clients
- Positive, “can do” attitude.

If interested, please submit a short cover letter and CV/resume to Dr. Hazel Atuel at atuel@usc.edu.

Application deadline is November 28, 2011. Interviews will start the week of December 5, 2011.

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