

## Job Description

**Position:** Research Scientist  
**Supervisor's Title:** Chief Research Officer

**Status:** Exempt/Full-Time  
**Department:** Research

**Organization:** Prevent Child Abuse America (PCA America) is a leading champion for all children in the United States. Founded in 1972, we are the nation's oldest and largest organization dedicated to the primary prevention of child abuse and neglect, working to actively prevent all forms of child abuse and neglect before it happens. Our success is founded on a nationwide network of state chapters and nearly 600 Healthy Families America (HFA) home visiting sites. We work across the public, private, and philanthropic sectors to assist communities in developing more just and equitable systems that benefit all children and families and break harmful intergenerational cycles of trauma and poverty. We conduct, translate, and disseminate innovative research based on science that our vast network then puts into action. We also raise public awareness and advocate for family-friendly policies at the national, state, and local levels to support transformative programs and promote the conditions and contexts that help children, families, and communities across the country thrive.

**Description:** PCA America is seeking a Research Scientist candidate to support ongoing research projects, including federally funded grant work. This individual will provide overall project leadership and management, conduct research across programs or projects, produce scholarly materials, and participate in research planning for the organization. The successful candidate must have a strong interest in applied and community engaged research.

### Responsibilities:

- **Data Analysis**
  - Conduct quantitative analysis on projects aligned with PCA America mission.
  - Identify key gaps in research literature.
  - Outline analysis plans with corresponding timeline.
  - Obtain and maintain necessary data while ensuring compliance with protected data requirements.
- **Dissemination**
  - Write scholarly journal articles for publication.
  - Present research findings at local, state, and/or national conferences.
  - Assist in preparing technical and non-technical reports, briefs, and/or research summaries.
  - Support departments within PCA America to facilitate the translation of research into practice and policy contexts.
- **Funding**
  - Manage all aspects of federal, state, and foundation funding applications.
  - Oversee pre/post award deliverables and tasks.
- **Supervision**
  - Supervise early career researchers (e.g., research assistants, postdoctoral fellows) employed at PCA America.

### Education and Experience:

- PhD in statistics, epidemiology, public health, social work, psychology, public policy/administration, or related field.
- Data management and analysis proficiency in Stata, SPSS, R, or SAS is necessary.
- Experience with advanced analytic approaches, including difference-in-difference analysis.
- Ability to supervise and manage staff.
- History of successfully securing extramural funding (e.g., government or foundation funding).

**Additional Qualifications:**

- Candidates must be authorized to work in the United States.
- Familiarity with a public health approach to violence prevention (e.g., home visiting).
- Commitment to working in a mission-driven organization with a focus on achieving equitable outcomes for all children and families.
- Strong methodological, communication, and writing skills.
- Excellent project management and organizational skills.
- Ability to effectively work collaboratively and independently.
- A track record of scholarly productivity and motivation to lead projects culminating in peer-reviewed publications.
- Ability to translate scientific findings for non-scientific audiences.
- PCA America is interested in individuals with expertise in rigorous quantitative analysis and child maltreatment prevention research.

**Compensation:**

- Salary is commensurate with educational and professional experience.
- Benefits include health, dental, life, vision, and disability insurance, plus 401(k).
- Each full-time employee received paid holidays, sick days, vacation days, and personal days in accordance with the PCA America employee handbook.

**Work Environment:** PCA America is headquartered in Chicago, IL and maintains a hybrid remote/in-office work environment. The position is open to a remote work option. This is a full-time (37.5 hours/week) position. Staff must maintain an office with internet and telephone. A computer and printer are provided.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is frequently required to sit, stand, talk, and/or hear, and/or use hands to finger, handle, or touch objects, tools, or controls. The employee must occasionally walk, lift and/or move up to 10 pounds while moving files or small packages. This position may occasionally lift and/or move up to 25 pounds while moving items. Capacity to spend significant time each day on a computer. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision and the ability to adjust focus. Specific requirements described here are representative of those that must be met by an individual to successfully perform the essential functions of this position.

Persons with mental or physical disabilities as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act are eligible for this position as long as they can perform the essential functions of the job after reasonable accommodations are made to their known limitations. If the accommodation is made to their known limitations. If the accommodations cannot be made because it would cause the employer undue hardship, such persons may not be eligible for this position.

**Other Duties:** Please note this job description is not designed to cover or contain a comprehensive listing of activities, duties, or responsibilities that are required of the employee for this job. Duties, responsibilities, and activities may change at any time with or without notice.

Prevent Child Abuse America is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**To Apply:**

- Cover letter
- CV
- Writing sample
- List of three references



This position will start as soon as possible. Initial projects include a R01 grant funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. PCA America is strongly supportive of applicants from diverse backgrounds; individuals from historically underrepresented populations are encouraged to apply.