



**An Invitation to Apply for the Position of
Research Associate, Data Analyst
Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL)
Chicago, Illinois
Posting Date: August 2019**

Organizational Summary:

The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL), a nonprofit organization based in Chicago, and a trusted source for knowledge about high-quality, evidence-based social and emotional learning (SEL). CASEL's mission is to help make evidence-based SEL an integral part of preschool through high school education across the country. We are transforming American education through SEL by collaborating with leading experts and supporting districts, schools, and states nationwide to drive research, guide practice, and inform policy. Together, we are enabling all young people in our diverse society to lead healthier, happier, more productive, and fulfilling lives.

With committed and growing philanthropic funding and a cohesive strategic plan, CASEL is endeavoring to:

- Support the implementation and document the impact of systemic SEL in large school districts and socio-demographically diverse school districts across this nation.
- Capture, refine, and test the learnings to advance the research base for the process of implementing systemic SEL and share that knowledge broadly.
- Identify and evaluate interventions and assessment tools to accelerate high-quality implementation of SEL nationwide.
- Partner with SEL program providers, colleges of education, professional organizations, school districts, and researchers to support scaling of SEL.
- Promote federal and state policies that encourage academic, social, and emotional learning.
- Strategically communicate to foster widespread demand for SEL as an essential part of students' education at the classroom, school, district, state, and national level.

CASEL is overseen by a distinguished 14-member Board of Directors. They include Timothy P. Shriver (Chair), Ann S. Nerad (Vice Chair), Roger P. Weissberg (Vice Chair), Stephen D. Arnold (Treasurer), Larry Aber, David Adams, Marc Brackett, Catherine Bradshaw, Deborah Delisle, Paul Goren, Janice Jackson, Chi Kim, Kimberly Schonert-Reichl, and Andrea Wishom.

What You'll Bring

At CASEL, you will join committed people who have diverse backgrounds and experiences, are inspired by our mission and are highly motivated to change children's lives through SEL in education. If you've been complimented for your analytical brain, communication skills, pegged as a problem solver, and proven you thrive in a fast-paced environment, you'll be right at home here. We're looking for talented people who learn from failure and overcome obstacles, cultivate strong relationships, and push themselves, their work and the people around them to the next level.

Position Description and Responsibilities:

The Research Associate will work under the direct supervision of the Director of Research-Practice Partnerships and collaborate with the VP of Research and other research and practice team members.

As a Research Associate, you will work with a variety of data to assess both continuous improvement and systemic social and emotional learning implementation. Specific responsibilities may include:

- Help develop a systematic approach to analyzing process and outcome data
- Analyze and rate evaluation studies of SEL programs and practices
- Translate a variety of data forms into quantitative data and conduct appropriate statistical analysis
- Develop research questions and analysis plans related to continuous improvement and impact data
- Prepare clear and compelling written documents and presentations for stakeholders who may not have experience working with complex data
- Generate insightful and/or innovative ways of using and presenting data that advance our work and goals
- Assist with the design, testing, and implementation of research and evaluation strategies and techniques to support our Learning Lab/research-practice partnership schools, districts and states with implementing systemic SEL.
- Create survey instruments, protocols, and/or report protocols for use in schools, districts and states
- Provide technical assistance to school/district/state staff focusing on the use of data to inform policy, program and practice decision-making
- Interpret data to provide feedback and support to schools/districts and states included in research
- Codify knowledge (practices & content) and support the development of dissemination products (e.g., journal articles, white papers, and infographics)
- Perform other related duties and participate in special projects as assigned

Qualifications

CASEL seeks an individual who is highly motivated and committed to CASEL's mission. The ideal candidate will have the following experience, expertise, and skills:

- Background in education (highly preferred)

- At least a Master's degree in social sciences or education with quantitative research skills, including experience designing program evaluation strategies and comfort interpreting results from statistical procedures
- Experience with statistical analysis software such as R, or SPSS (Preference towards R)
- Ability to conduct univariate, bivariate and multivariate statistical analysis (required), and multi-level modeling (preferred)
- Experience with mixed methods research and analyses
- Ability to efficiently analyze information across longitudinal data sources using a variety of systems
- Ability to critically assess challenges and identify flexible, effective solutions in ambiguous situations
- Proven ability to overcome barriers and to establish and sustain constructive working relationships with fellow staff members and external partners
- Excellent project management skills, the ability to work independently and efficiently in a fast-paced environment and manage multiple responsibilities simultaneously
- Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to work with a range of stakeholders and across organizations

The desire to work in a highly collaborative, entrepreneurial environment where taking initiative, working well in teams of internal and external colleagues, and perseverance in the face of challenges is a must.

Compensation

CASEL seeks to maintain compensation packages competitive within the nonprofit and education sectors, commensurate with experience.

To Apply

Please email a **thoughtful cover letter and resume** outlining how your skills and experience meet the qualifications of the position and stating how you heard about this opportunity to careers@casel.org. Please include the position title in the subject line of your email message. We regret that we will not be able to respond to phone inquiries about this position.

The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning is an equal opportunity employer. CASEL evaluates applicants for employment on the basis of qualifications, merit and work-related criteria without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, sexual orientation, mental or physical disabilities, pregnancy, medical condition, marital status or any other characteristic protected by law. CASEL employs and values a diverse work environment.