

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT PARTNERS

Title: Research Fellow

Status: Full-time (2 years)

Location: Virtual

Who We Are

Student Achievement Partners (SAP) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving K-12 student achievement through evidence-based action. We believe that challenging academic standards are the foundation for improved outcomes for all students. We are concentrated squarely on accelerating the literacy and mathematics capacity of students who have not been well-served in public schools, whose learning needs have been pushed to the margins of resource allocation and focus. Our specific attention is on Black students and students who come to English learning (ELs) from another language base. We are committed to sharing evidence-based, standards-aligned tools and practices freely with educators across the country through our website www.achievethecore.org.

Student Achievement Partners is an equal opportunity employer, committed to reflecting the diversity of the students we serve. We welcome applications from qualified candidates of all backgrounds.

Candidates should thrive in a collaborative, virtual environment that emphasizes equitable design, excellence, attention to detail, analytical rigor, and critical thinking. We use team collaboration software such as Zoom Video Conference, Microsoft Teams, Dropbox and Google Docs to facilitate communication and collaboration while working remotely. We value and provide growth opportunities to individuals who are eager and self-motivated in learning about literacy and mathematics instruction, education, and equity.

About the Position

The role of the Research Fellow will be to collaborate with SAP team members, including Directors and the Senior Research Fellow, to design and implement project-based embedded research methods that will better equip us to engage in continuous learning by measuring and evaluating the impact of our work.

SAP is particularly interested in building on best practices from educational research broadly to design new, innovative approaches that prioritize equitable research models and designs.

The Research Fellow will play a key designer role in developing and implementing models and methods for evaluating effectiveness and efficacy, especially based on the design, collection, and analysis of qualitative and quantitative data. The Research Fellow will be embedded in projects across SAP's portfolio contributing research expertise and capacity as project teams engage in these evaluation methods. The Research Fellow's experience and expertise will be utilized in both leading and co-leading capacities, depending on the needs of the project and project team. In addition, they will be involved in increasing the skills and knowledge of SAP staff so that they are better equipped to measure and evaluate the impact of their own work. This may include developing and leading workshops, engaging in one-on-one coaching, and/or project embedded support. The Research Fellow may also contribute to proposals for project funding as well as written communications, such as research and policy reports, online articles, and blog postings. As a team member of Student Achievement Partners, the Research Fellow also contributes towards our goal of becoming an anti-racist and multicultural organization.

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Key Responsibilities

- Lead the design of a new organization-wide systematic approach to project-based embedded research/evaluation methods that will better equip us to engage in continuous learning by measuring and evaluating the impact of our work, with a particular focus on equitable research models and designs. The design process will utilize the Equity By Design approach.
- Lead and/or co-lead in the design, planning, and implementation of research and evaluation activities. Conceptualize, develop, and manage research and evaluation plans and timelines, and monitor integrity of data collection and use of protocols and procedures. Create logic models, develop qualitative and quantitative data collection instruments (such as questionnaires and one-on-one and focus group interview guides), design qualitative and quantitative data collection processes and procedures, collect and analyze qualitative and quantitative data, work with SAP team members to reflect on learnings, and write up findings.
- Assist in increasing the skills and knowledge of SAP staff so that they are better equipped to measure and evaluate the impact of their own work. This may include developing and leading workshops, engaging in one-on-one coaching, and/or providing project-embedded support.
- Collaborate with SAP staff to disseminate project findings. This includes scholarly reports, briefs, blog postings, and other products for a variety of audiences, along with presentations to internal and external groups. Additionally, collaborate in developing proposals for external funding aligned with organizational priorities.

Qualifications

- Ability to work collaboratively and independently in a remote environment
- Ability to handle multiple responsibilities and to work under tight time constraints
- Ability to use discretion and sound judgment when dealing with confidential information
- Ability to communicate and work effectively with individuals having varying degrees of technical knowledge
- Deep understanding of K-12 education issues, particularly with regards to educational equity
- Knowledge and experience in applying quantitative and qualitative research methods and proficiency with data analysis software
- Excellent writing and analytical skills
- Strong organizational skills
- A master's degree in education, psychology, sociology, or a closely related field
- At least two years of prior work experience in K-12 education (strongly preferred)
- Prior K-12 teaching experience (preferred)

Compensation and Benefits

- Salary for this position is competitive and commensurate with experience. Additionally, Student Achievement Partners offers a comprehensive benefits package.