

# RESEARCH ASSISTANT

## QUALITATIVE

***Promoting Black students' Mental Health: A Pan-Canadian Research and Intervention Project on Social Determinants of Health and Equity in Canadian Universities*** aims to research and implement health promotion initiatives. This project follows an incubation phase conducted in 2019-2020.

Funded for three years by the Public Health Agency of Canada (*The Promoting Health Equity: Mental Health of Black Canadians Fund*), the goals of this Pan-Canadian and bilingual project are multiple:

1. This research and implementation initiative aims to generate knowledge and evidence-based data on the social determinants of mental health of Black students.
2. Based on capacity-building, the project aims to identify, create and develop culturally adapted interventions and psychoeducation to improve the health equity of Black students according to their needs in terms of mental health prevention and treatment.
3. By its results, this project sustains Canadian universities to develop innovative approaches to equity and social justice to overcome systemic and interpersonal racism in the academic setting.

Indeed, this Pan-Canadian community-based project aims to counter the systemic barriers faced by Black university students from diverse communities and backgrounds.

As part of this initiative, the principal investigator, Dr. Agnès Berthelot-Raffard (School of Health Policy and Management, York University), is looking for a research assistant.

## ROLE AND RESPONSABILITIES

Under the supervision of the principal investigator, Dr. Agnès Berthelot-Raffard, the research assistant will:

- Attend, and participate in research team meetings.

- Support the research team in the **development, revision and validation of data collection tools** (Development and implementation of study procedures, including preparing interview protocols)
- Assist the research coordinator in drafting the application for the ethical certification to the Ethics Board of Research.
- Assist the research coordinator in disseminating the call for participants.
- Manage the recruitment of participants,
- **Conduct the focus groups** and the **individual interviews**.
- Transcript the verbatim of the data collection.
- Participate in the **data analysis with Nvivo** or other appropriate software.
- Conduct literature searches, and maintaining citation databases,
- Preparing documents for diverse audiences as required by the principal investigator, administrators and funding agency, and the network participants.
- Developing and maintaining records of project activities; assisting in preparing periodic and ad hoc reports.
- Other related tasks.

## ESSENTIAL SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

The ideal candidate must have knowledge and a strong interest in Critical Mental health and Equity issues.

Regarding the specificities of this project: at equal competencies, the priority will go to a student who is identifying as Black.

- **Master or Ph.D. student in Health or Critical Disability Studies.**
- Excellent communication and writing skills in English (Fluency in French will be a strong asset)
- Knowledge of **research methods or experience in qualitative data collection** (focus groups or individual interviews)
- **Knowledge of Nvivo or other qualitative data analysis** software.
- Excellent knowledge of the following fields: critical mental health, community health and health promotion as evidenced through coursework or previous research.
- Keen **knowledge in Black studies and Critical Race theory** evidenced through coursework and research.
- Capacity to understand the social and mental effects of anti-blackness in the educational setting.
- Respect for confidentiality, intellectual property and ethical standards. Awareness of the narrow schedule of the project and respect regarding the deadline.
- Capacity to work autonomously with minimal supervision.
- Management of priorities and capabilities for analysis and synthesis.

## CONDITIONS

- Contract duration: Fall 2021 and Winter 2022
- 250 hours (125 for each session)
- Expected entry: August 23, 2021.

## HOW TO APPLY

Interested applicants should submit their cover letter, CV, transcripts, and the names of 2 appropriate referees in one PDF file by email: [aberthel@yorku.ca](mailto:aberthel@yorku.ca) Please put “**Qualitative Research Assistant position**” in the subject line.

**Deadline for submitting applications: August 9, 2021.** Interview with the research team will be on the week of August 16.