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Job Description

Older Adult Research Specialist - 27015

University Staff

Description

University of Colorado | CU Anschutz Medical Campus

School of Medicine | Department of Medicine, Division of Geriatric Medicine

Official Title: Research Services Entry Professional

Working Title: Older Adult Research Specialist

Position #00799839 – Requisition #27015

* Applications are accepted electronically ONLY at www.cu.edu/cu-careers *

The University of Colorado has a requirement for COVID-19 vaccinations and full completion thereof by 9/1/21 or upon start date. Information regarding this requirement, and exemptions can be found at:

Anschutz: https://www.ucdenver.edu/docs/librariesprovider284/default-document-library/3000-general-admission/3012---covid-19-vaccination-requirement-and-compliance.pdf?sfvrsn=4e9df3ba_2

Denver: <https://www.ucdenver.edu/coronavirus>

Exemptions vary by campus location/department.

Campus/Unit-Specific Exemptions:

- Anschutz Campus – Exemptions are allowed for medical or religious reasons.

- Denver Campus - Exemptions are allowed for medical, religious, or personal reasons.
- Consolidated/Central Services Administration – Will follow Anschutz policy on exemptions.

The University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus seeks individuals with demonstrated commitment to creating an inclusive learning and working environment. We value the ability to engage effectively with students, faculty and staff of diverse backgrounds.

The Division of Geriatric Medicine has openings for full-time University Staff (unclassified) Older Adult Research Specialist positions.

The University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus is a world-class medical destination at the forefront of transformative science, medicine, education and patient care. The campus encompasses the University of Colorado health professional schools, more than 60 centers and institutes, and two nationally ranked independent hospitals - [UCHealth University of Colorado Hospital](#) and [Children's Hospital Colorado](#) - that treat more than two million adult and pediatric patients each year. Innovative, interconnected and highly collaborative, the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus delivers life-changing treatments, patient care and professional training and conducts world-renowned research fueled by over \$650 million in research grants. For more information, visit www.cuanschutz.edu.

Nature of Work:

Full-time positions are available in the Multi-disciplinary Center on Aging in the CU Anschutz School of Medicine for Older Adult Research Specialists. Older Adult Research Specialists will support the recruitment and retention of underrepresented populations in clinical trials, including older adults. Older Adult Research Specialists may work in community-based settings, conducting community outreach, engagement, and education activities related to clinical trials, generally, and/or to support recruitment activities for specific clinical trials. Older Adult Research Specialists may also work in more traditional research settings, facilitating discussions as part of the informed consent process. These and other activities may involve working with researchers/research teams and community members on ways to communicate aspects of clinical trials to help ensure this information is understandable to populations with lower health literacy and/or whose experience or knowledge of research contributes to distrust and mistrust. Older Adult Research Specialists, based on their knowledge, experience and attributes, may also have bi-directional roles as educators, helping researchers/research teams identify feasible approaches to enhance the inclusion of underrepresented populations such as older adults in trials. Older Adult Research Specialist roles represent a subset of the roles typically performed by clinical research professionals that are most aligned with the following competency domains of the “competency wheel” put forth by the Joint Task Force for Clinical Trial Competency (<https://mrctcenter.org/clinical-trial-competency/framework/overview/>): 1) Scientific Concepts, 2) Ethical and Participant Safety Considerations, 3) Investigational Products Development and Regulation, 7) Leadership and Professionalism, and 8) Communications and Teamwork.

Job Summary:

In summary, Older Adult Research Specialists can serve a variety of roles. Some Older Adult Research Specialists may be able to specialize in performing outward-facing roles conducting community outreach to engage communities and populations that are currently underrepresented in research (e.g., racial/ethnic minoritized populations, older adults and rural populations) in clinical trials. Other Older Adult Research Specialists may be able to specialize

in working one-on-one with individuals facilitating discussions as part of the informed consent process. The role will call for:

- Innovators and change agents
- Educators
- Community engagement specialists
- Communication specialists

Positions may require travel for community-based outreach and engagement events. Depending on specific functions/roles performed, Older Adult Research Specialists may be required to work onsite or have opportunities to telecommute.

Key tasks performed:

- **Build trust in the research process** among those who are currently underrepresented in research,
- **Communicate complex research concepts in ways that are understandable** to individuals from diverse backgrounds,
- Help clinical trial research teams **identify feasible ways to promote facilitators of, and address barriers to**, research participation among populations currently underrepresented in clinical trials,
- **Facilitate** discussions that help older adults discern whether participating in a clinical trial is right for them (as part of **the informed consent process**), and
- **Promote retention in clinical trials** among enrolled participants through responsive approaches that anticipate and proactively address factors contributing to drop out/attrition.

This description is a summary only and is describing the general level of work being performed, it is not intended to be all-inclusive. The duties of this position may change from time to time and/or based on business need. We reserve the right to add or delete duties and responsibilities at the discretion of the supervisor and/or hiring authority.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in any field.
 - A combination of education and related training (such as completed Health Navigation and Older Adult Research Specialist training available through the Multi-disciplinary Center on Aging at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus) may be substituted for the bachelor's degree on a year for year basis.

Applicants must meet minimum qualifications at the time of hire.

PLEASE NOTE: Candidates will be responsible for travel expenses related to the interview process and any relocation expenses, if applicable.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Completed Health Navigation and Older Adult Research Specialist training available through the Multi-disciplinary Center on Aging at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.
- Bachelor's degree in science or health related field.
- Clinical research or related experience.
- Bilingual in Spanish.

Knowledge:

- Familiarity with basic medical terminology.
- Familiarity with basic research terminology, particularly language and design features associated with clinical trials.
- Ethical principles guiding the conduct of research involving human subjects and the 9 essential elements of informed consent.

Skills/Abilities:

- **Attention to detail** (the ability to demonstrate thoroughness and accuracy when accomplishing a task).
- **Communication** (excellent verbal and written communication skills and ability to tailor language depending on audience).
- **Connection and collaboration** (the ability to establish rapport, create and maintain a relationship of trust and build collaborative relationships).
- **Coordination** (strong organizational capabilities).
- **Creativity** (ability to think outside the box when addressing problems and identifying solutions, while still being cognizant of relevant regulations).
- **Critical thinking skills** (ability to make reasoned judgments that are logical and well-thought out).
- **Empathy** (ability to understand and share the feelings of another).
- **Flexibility and adaptability** (ability to adapt to changing job demands and priorities; ability to “switch gears” to meet different job demands).
- **Maturity/professionalism** (ability to respond to situations in an appropriate manner; behaving and knowing when to act according to the circumstances).
- **Self-directed** (ability to show initiative, work autonomously and to organize oneself).
- **Team player** (ability to work in and thrive within a team environment).
- **Tech savviness** (ability to navigate comfortably with different software and applications such as Microsoft Word, PowerPoint; Zoom; Microsoft Teams).

Attitudes/Behaviors:

- **Commitment:** Being willing to be challenged, seeking ways to overcome obstacles, and exceeding minimal expectations.
- **Curiosity:** Demonstrating a willingness to learn, ask questions and find the answers from qualified/quality sources, and pursue continuing education to excel in their role.
- **Enthusiasm:** Demonstrates a “can-do attitude”, is not fearful of trying new things; is resourceful in trying to find answers to questions.
- **Humbleness:** Demonstrates a willingness to acknowledge their limitations or when they don’t know something.
- **Independence:** Demonstrates a desire and drive to work autonomously.
- **Integrity:** Demonstrates the qualities of being honest and having strong moral principles.

Salary and Benefits:

The salary range (*or hiring range*) for this position has been established at \$45,702 to \$58,133.

The salary of the finalist(s) selected for this role will be set based on a variety of factors, including but not limited to, internal equity, experience, education, specialty and training.

The above salary range (*or hiring range*) represents the University’s good faith and reasonable estimate of the range of possible compensation at the time of posting.

Your total compensation goes beyond the number on your paycheck. The University of Colorado provides generous leave, health plans and retirement contributions that add to your bottom line.

Benefits: <https://www.cu.edu/employee-services/benefits>

Total Compensation Calculator: <http://www.cu.edu/node/153125>

Diversity and Equity:

The University will provide reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities throughout the employment application process. To request an accommodation pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, please contact the Human Resources ADA Coordinator at hr.adacoordinator@ucdenver.edu.

The University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus is committed to recruiting and supporting a diverse student body, faculty and administrative staff. The university strives to promote a culture of inclusiveness, respect, communication and understanding. We encourage applications from women, ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, persons within the LGBTQ+ community, and all veterans. The University of Colorado is committed to diversity and equality in education and employment.

The University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus is dedicated to ensuring a safe and secure environment for our faculty, staff, students and visitors. To assist in achieving that goal, we conduct background investigations for all prospective employees.

Special Instructions to Applicants: Required Application Materials: To apply, please visit: <http://www.cu.edu/cu-careers> and attach: 1. A letter of application which specifically addresses the job requirements and outlines qualifications 2. A current CV/resume 3. List of three to five professional references (we will notify you prior to contacting both on and off-list references)

Application Materials Required: Cover Letter, Resume/CV, List of References

Application Materials Instructions: Application Deadline: Applications are accepted electronically ONLY at www.cu.edu/cu-careers. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled.

Job Category Research Services

Primary Location Aurora

Department: U0001 -- DENVER & ANSCHUTZ MED CAMPUS - 20194 - SOM-MED-Geriatrics

Schedule Full-time

Posting Date Aug 11, 2022, 4:10:14 PM

Unposting Date Ongoing

Posting Contact Name: Peggy McIntosh

Posting Contact Email: peggy.mcintosh@cuanschutz.edu

Position Number: 00799839

The University of Colorado does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, pregnancy, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation, or political philosophy. All qualified individuals are encouraged to apply. For COVID-19 information or vaccination requirements, please refer to the campus specific [vaccination webpage](#).

[How to Apply](#)

[Title IX Policy](#)

[Regent Policy](#)

The University of Colorado participates in and will provide the federal government with your Form I-9 information to confirm that you are authorized to work in the U.S. [E-Verify](#).