

University of Manchester Q-Step Summer Project 2018

Ref: #02 UoMQStep 2018 AIFS Statistical and Technical Reports

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Organisation name: Australian Institute of Family Studies

Team/Department: Longitudinal Studies, Research and Analysis Team

Address: Level 20, 485 La Trobe St, Melbourne, Australia, 3000

Provisional title for project: Contribution to Statistical and Technical Reports for the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (LSAC)

Abstract:

This internship will involve research and analysis for the longitudinal studies team, mainly working on reports for the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (LSAC).

The LSAC Annual Statistical Report provides an overview of data on a range of topics, mainly using descriptive univariate analyses such as frequencies and cross-tabulations to highlight changes as children grow. Chapters are structured around the main themes covered by the LSAC data, including: Family Life; Cognitive Development and Education; Employment and Household Economic Wellbeing; Housing, Neighbourhood and Community; Social and Emotional Functioning; Physical Development and Health.

The position may also involve contributions to LSAC Technical Papers (e.g. <http://www.growingupinaustralia.gov.au/pubs/technical/index.html>)

Data sources: Waves 1 to 7 of the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children.

Key words: Child and Adolescent Development, Cognitive and Social Outcomes, Health, Employment, Life Transitions, Longitudinal Study

Essential and desirable skills:

Essential skills: experience with statistical packages such as SAS, SPSS or Stata; excellent verbal and written communication skills; excellent organisational skills; ability to work independently and prioritise and manage workloads.

Desirable skills: experience assisting with research projects related to child development or family wellbeing; understanding of policy issues that are of importance to the wellbeing of children.

Where the work will be carried out: AIFS, Melbourne

Selection method: Formal application and Skype interview

Support and training offered by the organization:

The intern will be part of the Longitudinal Studies Team and will collaborate with co-authors in their contribution to LSAC Reports. They will receive on the job training and support from other team members.

Supporting information:

The Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS) is the Australian Government's key research body in the area of family wellbeing. We conduct research, provide independent advice and communicate findings to policy-makers, service providers and the community about factors affecting family wellbeing. Our work builds an evidence base about "what works for families". Through our research, we contribute to developing policy and practice to promote the wellbeing of families in Australia.

The Institute's Longitudinal Studies area is a highly professional team with in-depth experience in managing numerous national longitudinal studies. The team is structured around four main areas of expertise: survey research, data management, data integration; and research and analysis. The Research and Analysis team have a high level of expertise in the analysis of longitudinal data. Much of AIFS' longitudinal data analysis involves the use of one of the six longitudinal studies that it manages. AIFS prepares a range of publications using data from the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (LSAC) including research reports, Annual Statistical Reports and technical reports.

Currently, the Institute hosts a number of flagship longitudinal studies – Growing Up in Australia (the longitudinal study of Australian children); the Building a New Life in Australia (the longitudinal study of humanitarian migrants; the Australian Temperament Project; and soon will host a national longitudinal study on men's health.

This internship will involve research and analysis for the longitudinal studies team, mainly working on reports for the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (LSAC).

More Information can be found on the AIFS Website: <https://aifs.gov.au>

Financial assistance offered by the organization: no additional financial assistance is being offered by AIFS.