**Postdoctoral Scholar and Data Manager**  
**Institute for Applied Research in Youth Development**  
**Tufts University, Medford, Massachusetts**

**Department Overview**  
The Institute for Applied Research in Youth Development is a laboratory within the Eliot-Pearson Department of Child Study and Human Development at Tufts University. The Institute has the mandate and goal to be a center of excellence for the conduct and dissemination of top-tier scholarship and for the education and professional development of graduate and undergraduate students interested in and passionate about enhancing the lives of diverse children, families, and communities through the application of developmental science.

**Position Description**  
The Postdoctoral Scholar will work closely with Dr. Richard Lerner, the Bergstrom Chair in Applied Developmental Science, and the research team to provide leadership in the planning, implementation, and analysis of person-specific and multivariate longitudinal data. In particular, the candidate will be responsible for designing and implementing a plan to instantiate all data-related aspects of the Cajon Valley School District (CVSD) project.

This multi-year pioneering, groundbreaking project is a collaboration between the CVUSD and the Institute for Applied Research in Youth Development (Richard M. Lerner, Ph.D.) and Turnaround for Children (Pamela Cantor, M.D.). The work includes foundational concepts associated with a dynamic, whole-child approach to learning and thriving for every young person across the school years and across the life span. This project will illuminate how this conceptual foundation provides the frame for equitable whole-child design of education settings; it will explain the implications of equitable whole-child design for personalized (student-specific) practice; and it will provide for a transformation in the approach to measurement of each student’s academic achievements, 21st Century Skills, well-being, and the contexts of learning and thriving.

This person will play a central role in the development and communication of high-quality research, assessment, and data analytics related to whole child design and person-specific measurement. The candidate will oversee the development of and beta testing of a student-specific approach to assessment. This will provide the evidence base for subsequent longitudinal evaluations of the impact of CVUSD programs on youth development through identifying the specific ways in which specific measurements for specific attributes can maximize the probability of positive developmental pathways of each student’s strengths. The candidate will have a strong understanding of idiographic measurement design and analysis and will be responsible for creating and implementing a strategic plan to measure, collect and analyze data across multiple schools and ages.
The successful candidate will be a highly motivated individual able to work efficiently and productively in a fast-paced, multifaceted research environment. The candidate should be able to work successfully as a team member on some project goals and independently on others. They should be able to assume a mentoring role for students. The initial appointment will be for one year, with the possibility of extension for an additional 2-4 years, made on a year-by-year basis, dependent on funding. Travel for project meetings and conferences is required. An ability to work independently, while also remotely managing a research team based on the East Coast, is important. Some evening work will be required.

**Years of related experience:** 1-3 years of experience

**Required Education:** Ph.D. or Ed.D.

**Required computer skills:** working knowledge of SPSS, Excel, R

**Other:** Initiative, problem-solving skills, multi-tasking skills, time management skills, and excellent collegiality and collaborative skills are needed. The person must be able to serve the multiple constituencies of the Institute—funders, youth, parents, schools, and programs with which we work, and the scientific community in ways that are efficient, productive, ethical, and of the highest quality. The person must be able to take a leadership role and responsibility for their area of work and, at the same time, contribute as part of a scientific leadership team, to the work of other staff and students. The person must be able to travel for project meetings and conferences and able to commit to a flexible schedule, including early mornings or evenings to accommodate East Coast-West Coast collaboration.

**Preferred Qualifications:**
The preferred candidate should have a doctorate in a field related to developmental science. One to three years of postdoctoral experience is preferred. A record of published scientific research, complex data analysis skills (including the utilization of SPSS, R, MPlus, and Access), advanced methodological skills, scientific writing, and scientific presentations are ideal. Qualitative data collection and analysis experience is a plus. Successful experiences in grantsmanship, in longitudinal, multivariate research, in scientific publication and speaking, and in managing large quantitative and qualitative scientific projects is preferred.

**Responsibilities:**
❖ Create, in partnership with others in the Institute, strategic plans for the CVUSD research project to ensure that scientific goals are met. Play a leadership role in the design and execution of the analysis of idiographic and multivariate longitudinal data. 30%
❖ Oversee and execute analysis of idiographic and multivariate longitudinal data. Troubleshoot issues as they arise and be able to offer creative solutions. Present complex data to multiple audiences including teachers, parents, and students. 30%

❖ Identify publication opportunities, develop and draft manuscripts, represent the Institute at scientific conferences and other meetings where the work of the Institute is being presented. 20%

❖ Train staff and students in data analysis techniques. Envision new ways of utilizing the existing data within the Institute. Mentor graduate, undergraduate, and volunteer students in appropriate research design and methodology, work to balance the educational needs of the students and the needs of the project by being attentive to the interests of the students. 15%

❖ Identify new grant opportunities and play a lead role in the writing and submission of grant applications. Participate in meetings with funders or other collaborators. 5%

Please send a letter of application, curriculum vitae, 2-3 publications, and the names and contact information of three references to: Heidi Johnson, Managing Director, heidi.johnson@tufts.edu