

**Job Title: Senior Research Fellow in Behavioural Economics**

**Reports to: Director - Research, CSBC**

**Overview of CSBC:**

The Centre for Social and Behaviour Change (CSBC), Ashoka University - India's leading Liberal Arts University – is funded by a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF). The vision of CSBC is to establish an institution, based out of India that is globally reputed for thought leadership and excellence in impactful behaviour change interventions for low-income and marginalized populations. The Centre is focused on bringing new capabilities such as behavioural science, design thinking, advanced data analytics and responsive feedback to governments, practitioners and donors to help better design and optimize behaviour change interventions. We work closely with Central and State Governments as well as other stakeholders in the areas of nutrition, sanitation, financial inclusion, maternal & newborn care, data privacy and agriculture.

**Project Context:**

CSBC has recently partnered with the Center for Decision Research (CDR) at University of Chicago's Booth School of Business to establish a Behavioural Research Initiative for engaging in various research-related projects and programmes.

This partnership includes, but is not limited to the following kinds of collaborations:

1. Short and Long-term Faculty Exchange
2. Collaborative Research and Discovery, Learning and Teaching
3. Fielding Laboratory Experiments
4. Co-hosted conferences, workshops and seminars
5. Generation of new knowledge and its expeditious dissemination for the public's benefit, including through academic publications.

**Overview of the Role/ Responsibilities:**

The Senior Research Fellow (SRF) will collaborate on research with the CSBC directors and affiliated academics at Centre, help manage the lab, and oversee the CSBC partnership with the Centre for Decision Research at the University of Chicago.

**A. As part of behaviour science research-related projects and programmes under the CSBC-CDR partnership, the SRF will be instrumental in:**

1. Managing the overall CSBC-CDR partnership:
  - Serving as a formal liaison to the CDR lab point of contact,
  - Facilitating short and long-term Faculty Exchange between CSBC and CDR,
  - Organizing joint conferences, workshops and seminars
2. Executing lab, lab-in-the-field and field experiments:
  - Negotiating design and execution details with partner institutions and clients,
  - Overseeing programming necessary for the collection of outcome data (in particular for lab and online experiments),
  - Overseeing ethical review of experiments,
  - Hiring and training required staff and supervisors,
  - Scheduling lab sessions and managing the associated administrative tasks (subject payments),

- Managing logistics of on-the-ground interventions,
  - Staffing the implementation of collaborative CSBC/CDR experiments,
  - Monitoring finances.
3. Facilitating capacity building components of the partnership:
- Undertaking occasional teaching responsibilities at Ashoka University,
  - Conducting training workshops with external clients - delivering teaching and training on topics such as experimental research methods and design.

**B. Within CSBC, the SRF will also conduct research with the Directors and may have additional responsibilities related to academic research projects, such as:**

1. Designing lab, lab-in-the-field and field experimental protocols:
  - Establishing outcomes of interest and their measurement,
  - Calculating sample requirements and identifying appropriate subjects - designing sampling strategies that might be required (cluster, strata, etc.),
  - Developing appropriate interventions along with strategies for randomization,
  - Preparing and publishing pre-analysis plans.
2. Managing experimental data analysis:
  - Programming or overseeing programming necessary for the collection of outcome data (in particular for lab and online experiments),
  - Developing experimental data cleaning and archiving plan,
  - Carrying out statistical analysis of data using Python, R or JavaScript programming based on the pre-analysis plans,
  - Overseeing the preparation of data visuals; and organizing and submitting replication datasets and codebooks.
3. Managing the collaborative writing process and submission to peer-reviewed journals.

**Desired Educational Qualification(s) and Skills required:**

- Minimum qualifications: PhD in Economics. A person in this position with a completed PhD/DPhil/FPM will be expected to spend some of her/his work time on her/his own behavioral research agenda (in line with the objectives of the Centre) as well as contribute to other ongoing work at the Centre.
- Prior experience in experimental economics, with a terrific grasp of measurement of inter-temporal choices, risk preferences;
- Adept at building theoretical models, and an abiding interest in approaching experiments as a means of testing economic theory;
- Should be familiar with emerging literature in Behavioural Economics; Statistical skills, and econometrics are essential;
- Familiarity with the design and implementation of lab, lab-in-the-field and field experiments
- Extensive experience with statistical analysis software (such as R or Stata),
- Ability and willingness to carry out independent scholarly experimental research on topics that contribute to the research agendas of CSBC and CDR
- Ability and willingness to deliver teaching and training on topics such as experimental research methods and design.

- Excellent management and organisational skills along with strong quantitative skills
- Experience programming surveys or virtual lab experiments in oTree, zTree, Qualtrics, SurveyMonkey, SurveyCTO, etc.
- Flexibility, self-motivation, ability to manage multiple tasks efficiently, and being a team player
- Ability to succeed in unstructured and changing environments
- Some conversational-level skills in a regional language
- Ability to give and receive constructive feedback

**Location and days of work:**

This role is based in New Delhi, India. Hence, the candidate should have work authorization in India (preferably Indian citizenship or Overseas Citizenship of India) or be willing to apply for an employment visa with the assistance of the University.

This is a full-time role (Monday-Friday) with a contract for a duration of 2 years.

Due to the evolving COVID-19 situation, the role may be on-boarded and executed remotely temporarily if required. The person would need to have their own laptop and access to a functioning internet connection. They would need to be available through regular working calls to virtually join team discussions and to support project requests.

**How to apply:**

Send your application to [careersatcsbc@ashoka.edu.in](mailto:careersatcsbc@ashoka.edu.in)

- Clearly mentioning the position title (Senior Research Fellow in Behavioural Economics) in the subject line of the email
- Please include your resume & a cover letter highlighting your experience
- Closing date: 15 October 2021.

We encourage early application as applications will be processed as they are received so the recruiting process may end earlier than the closing date.

We are an equal opportunity organization and encourage diversity within the organisation. Women, differently abled persons, SC/ST/OBC candidates are especially encouraged to apply.

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