



## **Vacancy Announcement: Research Assistant**

**No. of vacant positions: 1**

**Contract Duration: 6 months**

**Study location: Gaibandha**

The BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health (BRAC JPGSPH) at BRAC University was established in 2004 as an educational and research institution focusing on the integral areas of teaching, research, and services. The goal of the School is not only to impart knowledge but also to act as a center of excellence in knowledge creation through research and training that connects with practice.

Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH), BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University in partnership with BRAC Education Programme and Department of Architecture at BRAC University is going to implement a study titled “**Testing interventions to mitigate the health impact of heatwaves on primary school children in climate vulnerable districts of Bangladesh**”. The objectives of the study are to: 1.) To conduct a situation analysis to explore communities’ perception and experiences, and impact of heat waves on the health and well-being of primary school students aged between 7 and 14 years in 2 climate-vulnerable districts of Bangladesh; 2.) To contextualize “heat education program”, “solar reflective paint” and “bamboo ceiling with polyethylene foam” interventions in collaboration with local communities and implement them in BRAC NGO run schools, to address the impacts of heatwaves on primary school students in 2 climate-vulnerable districts; 3.) To assess the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of these localized interventions in addressing heatwaves impact on the health outcomes of primary school students; 4.) To assess the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of these localized interventions in addressing heatwaves impact on the educational outcomes of primary school students. 5.) To assess the feasibility of scaling up the interventions in low resource but high-risk community settings. This study aims to assess the impact of a combination of physical infrastructure and heat-education program interventions for improving health and educational outcomes of primary school children in two climate vulnerable districts, Kurigram and Gaibandha. The study will recruit Research Assistant to support the medical teams at field-level. Details are stated below:

### **Key Responsibilities:**

- Contribute to data collection tool development during training
- Facilitate and conduct quantitative data collection
- Organize and conduct community sensitization meetings
- Administer mental health assessment tools such as the youth version of the Depression, Anxiety, and Stress Scales (DASS-Y).
- Work closely with the Research Medical Officer (RMO) and Health Assistant to collect health-related data.
- Ensure the availability and readiness of the logistics for each team member.
- Coordinate with school authorities and community members to facilitate smooth research activities and intervention implementation
- Work closely with the community throughout the intervention period to keep all the activities on track.

- Assist in organizing the community-level workshops and dissemination events, e.g. contacting the participants of the events
- Provide any other additional research support
- Ensure ethical and safeguarding guidelines are followed throughout the data collection process.
- Assist in analyzing data and preparing reports based on field findings.
- Install heat-mitigation interventions, including solar reflective paint and bamboo ceilings with polyethylene foam, in selected schools.
- Set up temperature measurement tools for continuous temperature data collection, monitoring, and real-time reporting.
- Maintain devices used for temperature data collection

#### **Requirements/Qualification:**

- **Educational Qualification:** Bachelor's degree in Public Health, Social Sciences, Anthropology, or a related field from any reputed university
- **Experience:** At least 1 year of experience in field research, data collection, or qualitative and quantitative research methodologies.

#### **Other preferrable requirements:**

- Proficiency in health data collection and management.
- Experience with mental health assessment tools such as DASS-21 is preferred.
- Excellent communication skills in English and Bengali
- Understanding of healthcare systems, research methodology, and clinical practices.
- Ability to work under pressure and in complex team environments.
- Ability to perform extensive fieldwork, job location will be **Gaibandha**.
- Both **males** and **females** are encouraged to apply.

**Preference will be given to candidates residing in Gaibandha district.**

**Salary:** As per JPGSPH policy.

**Contract Period:** Tentative 6 months (expected to start from mid-April 2023).

**How to apply:** All interested candidates are advised to submit the application by sending their CV to [recruitment.sph@bracu.ac.bd](mailto:recruitment.sph@bracu.ac.bd) by **27 March, 2025**. Please mention in the subject line of your email: **Job Application for Research Assistant (IDRC project)**

Only short-listed candidates will be invited for the interview.

The Organization reserves the right to make an appointment at a grade lower than that advertised.