

Position: Research Associate

Social Sector Unit

ASER Centre, Pratham Education Foundation

Deadline: May 30th, 2019

About ASER Centre: ASER Centre (www.asercentre.org), is the independent research wing of Pratham Education Foundation (www.pratham.org) and seeks to use simple yet rigorous methods to generate evidence on scale, on social sector programs. The aim of the organisation is to strengthen the link between evidence and action by building the capacity of individuals and institutions to design, conduct and understand assessments that focus on key outcome indicators. One of ASER Centre's main activities is the design and facilitation of the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER), one of the largest household surveys of children's basic learning levels in reading and arithmetic.

About the Social Sector Unit (SSU) at ASER Centre: The Unit explores the broader applicability of Pratham and ASER Centre's expertise and approach in generating easy to understand evidence with community participation. It focusses on research, capacity building, and communication in the areas of water & sanitation, nutrition, health, and overall early childhood development. The projects under the unit are carried out independently as well as in collaboration with partners such as Institute of Fiscal Studies UK, J-PAL, Centre for Early Childhood Education and Development, UNICEF, UNDP etc., funded by organisations such as Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, The World Bank, National Institute of Health (NIH), Jacobs Foundation, Waterloo Foundation.

The Unit is also actively involved in capacity building initiatives and conducts workshops with a wide variety of stakeholders. Some examples of our key current projects include:

- Exploratory study to test the applicability of the ASER approach to the health sector in India.
- Research and implementation in the early year's domain to develop and test scalable interventions that promote child development, thus improving the future abilities of children.

We seek applications from candidates with a background in Nutrition and/ or Health research to join the team as a Research Associate.

As a Research Associate, the candidate will be based out of Delhi and work in a team on research and evaluation studies conducted in different parts of India. The candidate is also expected to travel and stay in the rural areas of India. Following is an indicative, non-exhaustive list of tasks that are part of the role:

- Conducting secondary research on specified domains.
- Designing and creating content based on the need of the specific program.
- Designing and piloting of tools based on project goals and indicators.
- Creating process and training manuals on survey methodology.

- Managing the operational activities in the project locales including both planning and execution.
- Writing and presenting findings in various forms (reports, policy briefs, presentations, and other related documentation).
- Coordination and delivery of trainings to field investigators in project sites.
- Monitoring of data collection and managing teams in the field.
- Assistance with grant and proposal writing, as required.

Qualifications and competencies:

- **Educational and professional qualifications:** Candidates with a post-graduate degree in Nutrition, Public Health or rural development could apply.
- **Competencies:** Candidates should possess a strong background in either nutrition, public health or rural development. Candidates should be comfortable with traveling extensively to rural locations across the country and should be able to work with a wide variety of people (state team associates, partner organizations in states, government officials, personnel from NGOs, academicians). Some specific skills include:
 - Familiarity with the essential health and nutrition terms
 - Proficiency in M.S. Office (Excel, PowerPoint and Word)
 - Strong communication skills in English and Hindi (written and oral) to effectively correspond with a diverse audience. Proficiency in any other Indian language will be an advantage.
 - Candidates with relevant experience of 1-2 years will be preferred.

Consultancy Fees: Consultancy for this position will be in the range of Rs. 28,000 – 35,000 per month. The following factors will be considered while making the final offer to selected candidate: a) Academic qualifications b) professional experience c) skills possessed d) performance in the interview.

Application process: Interested candidates should email the following documents in their application

1. CV (Not exceeding 2 pages)
2. Cover Letter (500 words) explaining your motivation and suitability for the position

Please send completed applications to at recruitmentsasercentre@gmail.com with the following subject line: Research Associate application – Social Sector Unit. **The deadline for applications to this role is 30th May 2019.**

Candidates will be expected to undergo the process of recruitment as per ASER Centre's norms.

Please note that due to the high volume of applicants, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.