

Research assistants sought in Omaha, NE

The Baby's First Years study team is seeking several full-time Research Assistants with a bachelor's degree in psychology, Neuroscience, Child Development, or a related field in Omaha, NE. This individual will be involved in collecting data at lab-based and possible home-based visits to collect data from 8-year-olds and their mothers.

Responsibilities:

Primary responsibilities include successfully scheduling study participants for university-based data collection, administering study visits, uploading data, and engaging in quality control procedures. Duties may include light travel to participant homes. Data collection at age 8 will include standardized assessments of children's cognitive development, measures of child brain activity (EEG/ERP), epigenetics, maternal executive functioning, and administration of a survey on health and family life.

Study Description:

The Baby's First Years study is a pathbreaking random-assignment study of the impact of monthly unconditional cash gifts to low-income mothers of infants during the first four years of their child's life. The aim is to understand the causal effects of poverty reduction on early childhood development and family life. One thousand racially and ethnically diverse mothers were recruited from hospitals shortly after giving birth in each of four metropolitan areas — New York City, New Orleans, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota, and Omaha, Nebraska. Participating mothers in each site were randomized to receive either \$333/month or \$20/month. More about the study, media coverage, and its motivation can be found [here](#). Data are collected from participating families annually around the focal child's birthday. At Age 8, families will be invited to local university settings so that we may directly assess children's cognitive and emotional development and brain function.

Minimum Qualifications:

The ideal RA candidate will be/have:

- Bachelor's degree in psychology, Neuroscience, Child Development, or a related field
- Experience working in a research setting
- Experience working with young children
- Able to commit to the position starting spring/summer 2026 full-time for at least 12 months
- Willing to work weekends and flexible hours to accommodate study families
- Extremely detail-oriented and adept at multitasking
- Trained in basic research methods

Preferred but not required Qualifications:

- Experience administering standardized cognitive assessments
- Experience with EEG
- Experience working with families from low-income communities
- Bilingual in English and Spanish
- Experience working with REDCap
- Understanding of Institutional Review Board operations
- Transportation for home visits
- Individuals who are members of the local communities will be strongly considered

To apply:

Please send a CV and cover letter to anarvaez3@unl.edu. Please indicate in the message if you have a preferred site or limited flexibility on the location of the position.