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**Job Title:** Student Research Assistant

**Department:** Various Academic Departments
**Hourly Rate:** $12/hour
**Work Hours:** Up to 20 hours per week (flexible, based on project needs and student's class schedule)

**Position Summary:**

The Student Research Assistant will provide valuable support to a faculty member in their research endeavors. This position offers an exceptional opportunity for students to engage directly in academic research, contributing to knowledge creation across various disciplines. The assistant will gain hands-on experience in research methodologies, data handling, and scholarly communication, making a tangible impact on ongoing projects.

**Purpose and Learning Outcomes:**

* Gain practical experience in academic research within their field of interest.
* Develop proficiency in specific research methodologies and techniques relevant to the project (e.g., data collection, literature review, lab procedures, statistical analysis).
* Enhance critical thinking and problem-solving skills by analyzing information and contributing to research solutions.
* Strengthen organizational and time management abilities by managing research tasks and deadlines.
* Improve scientific or academic writing and communication skills through participation in data interpretation and reporting.
* Understand the ethical considerations and best practices in research.
* Build a professional relationship with faculty and gain mentorship in their academic discipline.

**Key Responsibilities:**

* Assist faculty with various stages of research, which may include:
	+ Conducting comprehensive literature reviews and synthesizing relevant scholarly articles.
	+ Collecting and organizing data (e.g., surveys, interviews, experiments, field observations, archival research).
	+ Entering, cleaning, and managing research data using appropriate software or databases.
	+ Performing basic data analysis under the guidance of the faculty supervisor.
	+ Assisting with laboratory experiments, equipment setup, and maintenance (if applicable to the discipline).
	+ Preparing research materials, presentations, or preliminary reports.
	+ Maintaining accurate and detailed research records and logs.
	+ Assisting with the preparation of grant proposals, research manuscripts, or conference presentations.
	+ Proofreading and editing research-related documents.
* Attend research meetings with the faculty supervisor as required.
* Adhere to all university research policies, safety protocols, and ethical guidelines.

**Qualifications:**

Preferred knowledge, skills, and personal qualifications:

* Majoring in a discipline relevant to the faculty's research area (e.g., Biology, Chemistry, Psychology, Sociology, Computer Science, Engineering, History, English, Agricultural Sciences).
* Previous coursework or exposure to research methodologies (e.g., statistics, qualitative methods, lab techniques).
* Familiarity with relevant software (e.g., Microsoft Excel, statistical software, qualitative analysis software, citation management tools).
* Strong analytical skills and attention to detail.
* Ability to work independently and take initiative on assigned tasks.
* Prior experience in a research lab, academic project, or relevant internship is a plus.

Required Qualifications:

* Must be a currently enrolled undergraduate or graduate student at Alabama A&M University.
* Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 and in good academic standing.
* Strong academic record in relevant coursework.
* Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
* High level of responsibility, reliability, and strong work ethic.
* Ability to follow complex instructions and adhere to research protocols.
* Demonstrated interest in the specific research area of the faculty member.

**Experience Gained in this Role:**

By the end of the employment period, the student will have developed skills in:

* Communication: The student will contribute to reports, presentations, and scholarly outputs.
* Critical Thinking: The student will be able to analyze complex information and contribute to scholarly inquiry.