

ESRC/MRC 1+3 Fully Funded Studentship Award (MSc / PhD)

The Health Effects of Later Life Employment

Centre for Census & Survey Research (CCSR) and School of Medicine, University of Manchester

Applications are invited for a an ESRC/MRC Interdisciplinary 1+3 studentship starting 20th September 2010 at the Centre for Census & Survey Research (CCSR) and School of Medicine, University of Manchester. The topic of the studentship is "The health effects of later life employment" and will examine if later life employment can promote healthy ageing and independence in later life. The student will be trained in quantitative social science, epidemiological and ageing analytical methods, using large population health longitudinal datasets during the MSc (Social Research Methods and Statistics) and the PhD. The supervisors are Professor Tarani Chandola (CCSR), Dr Neil Pendleton (School of Medicine) and Professor James Nazroo (CCSR).

There are increasing numbers of older workers in the labour force. Governments view later life employment as a means of tackling poverty and improving well being at older ages. However, epidemiological evidence suggests the opposite-people's well being and health improve after retirement. Older workers may see retirement as a way of improving their health and happiness, rather than staying on at work leading to greater wellbeing in later life. The project compares the health and well being of older workers (age 60+) with their peers who retired upon reaching their pension age and experienced "normal" retirement.

CCSR is a multidisciplinary research centre in the School of Social Sciences. Part of Manchester's top-rated Sociology submission in the most recent Research Assessment Exercise, CCSR is world renowned for cutting edge research under the broad banner of Quantitative Social Science.

This project would be ideally suited to a candidate who has or expects to obtain a high quality degree (minimum upper-second honours) in social sciences, human sciences or health sciences, with an interest in health, inequalities, employment, retirement or ageing. They will need to show some understanding of the health inequalities and the social determinants of health, and show skills and aptitudes for academic writing and quantitative analysis.

You will register on the MSc in Social Research Methods and Statistics in year 1 and subject to you attaining an overall average of Merit on the MSc, you will then register for a 3 year PhD in Social Statistics in September 2011. This studentship provides four years full funding covering home/EU tuition fees and including a maintenance grant of approximately £13,500 per year. In the +3 period of the award you will be entitled to a Research Training Grant of approximately £750 (£1000 if undertaking Advanced Quantitative Methods) in each year.

All nominees must satisfy the ESRC residential eligibility requirements outlined in the ESRC Research Studentships Guidance Notes for Applicants 2010, which can be found via the following website:

<http://www.esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/opportunities/postgraduate/Guidance.aspx>

Further information and how to apply

Please direct applications in the following format to the main supervisor, Professor Tarani Chandola (tarani.chandola@manchester.ac.uk):

- A CV, including full details of all University course grades to date.
- Contact details for two academic or professional referees.
- A personal statement (750 words maximum) outlining your suitability for the topic, what you hope to achieve from the PhD and your academic or research experience to date.

To discuss your application please contact Tarani Chandola (tarani.chandola@manchester.ac.uk)

Deadline for application

The deadline for applications is **2 July 2010**. Interviews will be held on 12 July from 9am onwards. The successful candidate will be required to submit a full on-line application for the MSc in Social Research Methods and Statistics to undergo the standard admissions procedure (if not already done so).

Further information about the Departments can be found at:

<http://www.ccsr.ac.uk/>

<http://www.medicine.manchester.ac.uk>