



ROLE PROFILE

- Job Title:** Senior Research Fellow in Qualitative Methods
- School/Department:** School of Medicine - NIHR Research Design Service East Midlands
- Job Family and Level:** Research and Teaching Level 5
- Contract Status:** Fixed-term until 30 September 2023, available from 01 October 2018
- Hours of Work:** Part-time (21.75 hours per week)
- Location:** NIHR Research Design Service East Midlands, C Floor, South Block, Queen’s Medical Centre
- Reporting to:** Director of the Nottingham base of the NIHR Research Design Service for the East Midlands

Purpose of the New Role:

This post is funded by the NIHR Research Design Service East Midlands at the University of Nottingham. The successful candidate will be an experienced applied health services researcher with a strong qualitative research background.

The person appointed will join a team of Research Design Service (RDS) staff who together provide methodological support and advice to researchers who are developing high quality applied health or social care research applications for submission to national peer reviewed funding streams. We are looking for a team player with good communication skills who will enjoy working with other members of the team as well as individually.

The candidate will be expected to provide expert advice to researchers applying for applied health and social care research funding. A key component will be to advise on the qualitative components of research applications as well as providing more general support for the development of funding applications. It is anticipated that the applicant will have skills or experience in other areas such as mixed methods, service evaluation, implementation research and/or Patient and Public Involvement. A working knowledge of the current NHS & social care landscape will be an advantage.

The appointed person will be expected to lead on, or contribute to other Research Design Service activities such as the delivery of funding awareness seminars, learning events, staff development sessions and application review panel meetings. It is likely the post holder will have opportunities to have a proportion of their time bought out to enable them to undertake collaborative research and maintain their own research profile. They may also be asked to line manage or provide support to junior staff.

	Main Responsibilities	% time per year
1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide expert advice to NHS staff and academic researchers who are developing applications for submission to NIHR funding streams, and other sources of funding such as Research Councils and the Association of Medical Research Charities. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The provision of advice on qualitative components of applications including study design and methods of analysis. This may include providing advice on 	60%

	<p>stand-alone studies or qualitative research that is nested within larger studies or clinical trials.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The provision of more general advice that will improve the competitiveness of research funding applications. ○ Identification of appropriate funding streams for the submission of applications. ○ Meeting with researchers and providing written feedback. 	
2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To lead on the organisation of some RDS activities (e.g. learning events, the management of new cases, etc.) 	15%
3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To design and to contribute to the delivery of events, workshops and occasional seminars/standalone courses for NHS staff and their academic partners. Events will focus upon research funding opportunities and the role holder will demonstrate their specialist area/s of expertise in their contribution to these. 	15%
4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To build relationships and collaborations with internal and external contacts, nationally and if appropriate internationally to improve the quality of bids submitted. ● To work collaboratively as part of the RDS EM team, assisting other members of the RDS in the delivery of the service and covering for other members of staff when necessary. ● You may be asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Represent the Research Design Service (RDS) at local and national meetings. ○ Provide support to junior staff and act as a line manager. 	10%

Knowledge, Skills, Qualifications & Experience

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications/ Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PhD or equivalent in a subject that is relevant to applied health services research, or the equivalent in professional qualifications and significant research experience in this area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Evidence of continuing professional/educational development.
Skills/Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Post-graduate training and skills in research methods and high level methodological skills in qualitative methods, demonstrating breadth and depth in own specialist area. ● Ability to rapidly assimilate clinical/applied ideas. ● Ability to discuss ideas with researchers at very early stages, helping them to refine their research questions and ensure what they do is manageable and of high methodological quality. ● Ability to build relationships and collaborate with others, internally and externally. ● Excellent organisational skills. ● Excellent oral and written communication skills, including the ability to communicate with clarity on complex and conceptual ideas to those with limited knowledge and understanding as well as to peers. ● Excellent knowledge of appropriate IT packages e.g. Word, PowerPoint, Excel, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Training and skills in health services research. ● Knowledge of NIHR research funding streams. ● Knowledge of the current NHS& social care landscape. ● Emerging skills in managing and motivating staff. ● Understanding of ethical issues in health services research. ● Excellent knowledge of software used in the role holder's specialist area of expertise, for the analysis of data e.g. N Vivo, RevMan, Meta-Analyst. ● Excellent knowledge of general statistical software packages e.g. Stata. ● Skills and experience in at least one of the following: mixed methods research, process evaluation, public and patient involvement in applied health research.
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Evidence of considerable experience in collaborative applied or social care research, including experience of providing input into the design of the qualitative components of research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reviewing methodological section of protocols. ● Experience of writing collaborative research grant proposals. ● Experience of providing advice on the design of Health Services research

	<p>studies and, identifying and applying appropriate specialist techniques.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of an appropriate track record of peer reviewed publications. • Experience of data analysis in specialist area. • Experience and achievement in chosen field, reflected in growing and consistent reputation. • Experience of working independently and within multidisciplinary teams. • Evidence of ability to prioritise and time-manage work activities, and to work to deadlines. • Evidence of producing work to a high standard with exceptional attention to detail. 	<p>proposals to NHS or academic researchers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching experience in research methods to NHS or academic researchers. • Experience of managing and mentoring junior colleagues. • Appreciation of public and patient involvement in research.
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willingness to adopt the Ethos and Principles of the School of Medicine. 	



The University of Nottingham strongly endorses Athena SWAN principles, with commitment from all levels of the organisation in furthering women's careers. It is our mission to ensure equal opportunity, best working practices and fair policies for all.

The School of Medicine holds a Silver Athena SWAN in recognition of our achievements in promoting and advancing the representation of women in science, technology, engineering, medicine and mathematics (STEMM). Please see <http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/medicine/about/athena-swan.aspx>