



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellows/Research Assistants in
Health Economics and Health Data Science



Salary: Grade 6 (£28,762-£34,308); Grade 7 (£35,333– £42,155)

Reference MHIHS1345

Fixed-term for 2/3 years

Research Fellows (G7)/Research Assistants (G6) in Health Economics and Health Data Science, School of Medicine, Leeds Institute of Health Sciences

Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have a background in economics, econometrics, statistics, epidemiology or health data science? Are you interested in working with observational data to address policy-relevant research questions? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research-intensive universities?

We are looking to appoint two researchers at Grade 6 (Research Assistant) or Grade 7 (Research Fellow) in Health Economics and Health Data Science to contribute to recently funded research projects in the Academic Unit of Health Economics (AUHE), Leeds Institute of Health Sciences. The posts are available immediately and are for two years (post 1) or three years (post 2) in the first instance. However, AUHE has an excellent track record in securing the funding required to extend research post contracts.

This is an exciting opportunity to join a thriving team of researchers. You will be part of a large team which has a wide portfolio of funded research projects involving a broad range of statistical, econometric and health economic evaluation methods. We are committed to supporting and developing our team members, for example through attendance at conferences and access to training in contemporary statistical, econometric and health economic evaluation methods. We will also support you to further develop your own areas of expertise and interests.

In post 1 (a two-year post), you will work on projects funded by the NIHR which involve conducting economic evaluations of obesity and diabetes interventions. The interventions are of significant current policy interest, including an intervention which aims to prevent obesity among pre-school children and an intervention which aims to



reverse type 2 diabetes among adults recently diagnosed with type 2 diabetes in primary care. The projects involve collaborations with our partners at the Public Health and Society Research Group, University of York, and the Obesity Institute, Leeds Beckett University. The work will involve the application of econometric approaches to analysing observational data and the use of simulation models to assess cost-effectiveness.

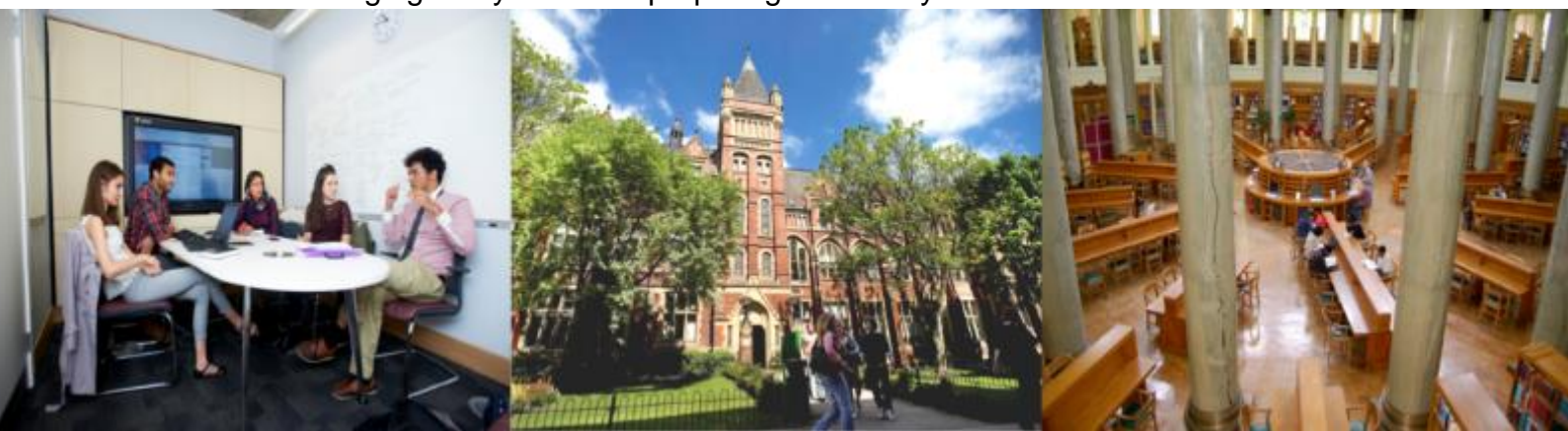
In post 2 (a three-year post), you will conduct econometric analyses using the UK Household Longitudinal Survey (also known as Understanding Society). This will include (i.) assessing the financial impact of providing informal care to people at the end of life and (ii.) examining how employment changes following an arthritis diagnosis affect people's quality of life and wellbeing. The post will involve quantitative analysis of large survey datasets and will have a strong policy focus. The analyses build directly on recent econometric work conducted by our team which have been published in recent months in high impact journals (Applied Health Economics and Health Policy, Social Science and Medicine, Economics and Human Biology). The work will involve collaboration with researchers across the wider Faculty of Medicine and Health.

For both posts, you will have a good understanding of statistical methods used to analyse observational data in econometrics, epidemiology or health data science as well as competence with statistical programming software.

What does the role entail?

As a Grade 6 or Grade 7 researcher, you will work closely with other members of AUHE and be responsible for aspects of the day-to-day running of the work programmes including:

- Developing analysis plans
- Managing study data and preparing it for analysis



- Undertaking analysis and interpretation of research data
- Preparing initial drafts of reports for research funders
- Preparing results and writing for publication in refereed journals, with an expectation that researchers in these posts would be supported to submit first author publications to high impact journals within two years
- Presenting findings of research in a range of suitable formats for a variety of audiences
- Reviewing applied and/or theoretical literature
- Generating research output and contribute to the generation of independent and original ideas, as appropriate
- Contributing to the design of a successful programme of investigation
- Evaluating methods and techniques used and results obtained by other researchers and to relate such evaluations appropriately to your own work
- Assisting with any other duties of a similar nature that are delegated by senior staff members
- Maintaining a safe work environment, including ensuring compliance with legislation and the undertaking of risk assessments

In addition to this, as a Grade 7 researcher, your duties will also include:

- Presenting findings of research in a range of suitable formats for a variety of audiences
- Contributing to the development of applied health and methodological research proposals
- Liaising with health professionals and other researchers within the Faculty of Medicine and Health and other stakeholders (e.g. Funding bodies, Industry, and patient groups)
- Contributing to project management
- Taking part in knowledge-transfer activities, where appropriate and feasible
- Contributing to the supervision of junior researchers, as appropriate



- Acting as a mentor to less experienced colleagues, as appropriate
- Undertaking any other duties commensurate with the post as requested by the Director of Institute or nominees

These duties provide a framework for the roles and should not be regarded as a definitive list. Other reasonable duties may be required consistent with the grade of the posts.

What will you bring to the role?

As a Grade 6 or Grade 7 researcher, you will have:

- An MSc degree in health economics or closely allied discipline;
- A strong background in quantitative methods
- Demonstrated knowledge of decision analytic models or simulation models (post 1 only)
- Be conversant with statistical software programming using e.g. Stata or R
- Good interpersonal and communication skills, both written and verbal and the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines
- A proven ability to work well both individually and in a team
- The ability to work unsupervised and to use your own initiative
- Competence with statistical software programming using e.g. Stata or R
- Proven ability to manage competing demands effectively, responsibly and without close support
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development.
- Proven ability to write to the standard required for research reports and/or publications



In addition to this, as a Grade 7 researcher, you may also have:

- A PhD in Health Economics or closely related discipline e.g. epidemiology, health data science, operational research, statistics, economics, econometrics (applications from those close to submitting their PhD thesis are welcome) or an MSc with equivalent research experience in a relevant field
- Demonstrated experience of conducting research using statistical methods and observational datasets
- Evidence of previous research experience in health
- A track record of successful, high quality, publications in a relevant discipline
- Evidence of effective project management skills
- Teaching experience
- Experience of carrying out systematic reviews

How to apply

You can apply for this role online; more guidance can be found on our [How to Apply](#) information page. Applications should be submitted by **23.59** (UK time) on the advertised closing date.

‘Please note: If you are not a British or Irish citizen, from 1 January 2021 you will require permission to work in the UK. This will normally be in the form of a visa but, if you are an EEA/Swiss citizen and resident in the UK before 31 December 2020, this may be your passport or status under the EU Settlement Scheme.’

Contact information

We would be very pleased to hear from you if you wish to have an informal discussion about these posts. Please contact: **Dr Adam Martin** (A.Martin1@leeds.ac.uk).



Additional information

About the Academic Unit of Health Economics (AUHE) at Leeds

The Academic Unit of Health Economics (AUHE) has a wide portfolio of applied and methodological research projects funded by the NIHR, research councils, charitable organisations and industry. The Academic Unit of Health Economics (AUHE) is led by Professor Chris Bojke.

Our research

We use a variety of economic and econometrics methods to explore health-related cost effectiveness, efficiency and inequalities. We engage with policy makers, clinicians, clinical scientists, basic scientists, patient groups and other applied health researchers. Our research is multidisciplinary and based on strong collaborations across Leeds, other UK institutions, and internationally.

Our work is contained within the School of Medicine's Health Economics research topic. The themes of our research include:

- Economic evaluation.
- Health technology assessment.
- Systematic Review and evidence synthesis.
- Health outcomes and preferences.
- Applied econometrics.
- Diagnostic test evaluation.

Key areas of methodological research are:

- Measurement and valuation of health
- Equity in health care resource allocation
- Efficiency in health and social care
- Economic evaluation in health care decision making
- Economic evaluations of diagnostic tests and devices
- Applied health econometrics and application in evaluation
- Early economic evaluation modelling.

Our teaching

Our research feeds into our teaching portfolio which includes, undergraduate courses, MSc modules, PhD programmes and short courses for continuing professional development.



Working at Leeds

Find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it is like to live and work in the Leeds area on our [Working at Leeds](#) information page.

Candidates with disabilities

Information for candidates with disabilities, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found on our [Accessibility](#) information page or by getting in touch with us at disclosure@leeds.ac.uk.

