



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Fellow in Nutrition and Lifestyle Analytics, School of Food Science and Nutrition, Faculty of Environment



Salary: Grade 7 (£37,099 – £44,263 p.a.)

Reference: ENVFS1112

Fixed-term available immediately until 31st August 2025

We will consider job share and flexible working arrangements

Research Fellow in Nutrition and Lifestyle Analytics

School of Food Science and Nutrition and Leeds Institute for Data Analytics

Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have a PhD in data science, epidemiology, statistics or mathematics and domain expertise in healthy and sustainable diets? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive Universities?

The Nutrition and Lifestyle Analytics team are based in the interdisciplinary settings of the School of Food Science and Nutrition and the Leeds Institute for Data Analytics, working closely alongside the [Consumer Data Research Centre \(CDRC\)](#).

A Research Fellow is required to work on a major project, funded by the UKRI, as part of the Transforming Food Systems Call. Our project "FIO-food, food insecurity in people living with obesity: improving sustainable and healthier food choices in the retail food environment", is a collaboration with the University of Aberdeen, University of Liverpool, Leeds Beckett University, Robert Gordon University, and University College London. The Research Fellow will analyse customer sales/loyalty card data from a leading UK supermarket, in combination with the nutrition/health metrics, sustainability indicators, and demographic information from the Census.

This project is led from the School of Food Science and Nutrition at the University of Leeds, but works closely with scholars from other disciplines. You will report to Professor Michelle Morris (Professor of Data Science for Food) who leads the Nutrition and Lifestyle Analytics team, and work closely with Professor Mark Gilthorpe (Professor of Statistical Epidemiology at Leeds Beckett University) and Dr Mark Green (Professor in Health Geography at the University of Liverpool).

What does the role entail?

As a Research Fellow your main duties will include:

- Manipulating and analysing consumer data that falls within the scope of the healthy and sustainable diets, using advanced research techniques/pre-determined methods;
- Generating and pursuing original research ideas in the appropriate subject area;



- Developing research objectives and proposals and contributing to setting the direction of the research project and research team including, where appropriate, preparing proposals for funding in collaboration with colleagues;
- Presenting findings of research, for example, preparing papers, blog posts and making presentations, with guidance and advice as appropriate;
- Evaluating methods and techniques used and results obtained by other researchers and to relate such evaluations appropriately to your own work;
- Preparing papers for publication in leading international journals and independently writing reports;
- Working both independently and also as part of a larger team of researchers, engaging in knowledge-transfer activities where appropriate and feasible;
- Maintaining your own continuing professional development and acting as a mentor to less experienced colleagues as appropriate;
- Facilitating communications between team members, by setting up meetings and sharing materials as appropriate;
- Contributing to the research culture of the School, where appropriate;
- Contributing to the training of both undergraduate and postgraduate students, where appropriate, including assisting with the supervision of projects in areas relevant to the project.

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

What will you bring to the role?

As a Research Fellow you will have:

- A first degree and PhD (or close to submitting final version at point of application) in a relevant area of study (for example, data science, epidemiology, statistics, mathematics) or a closely allied discipline;
- A strong background in Nutrition and Health research domain;
- Proven ability to structure, manage, and work with advanced quantitative data;
- Evidence of capacity to design and undertake research, and contribute into a wider research programme;
- Demonstrated experience of conducting research;
- Proven ability to write to the standard required for research reports and peer-reviewed journal publications;



- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines, work effectively under pressure and manage competing demands effectively, responsibly, and without close support;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including presentation skills and the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders;
- A proven ability to work well both individually and in an interdisciplinary team;
- A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development.

You may also have:

- A track record of successful, high quality, publications on nutrition and health analytics or closely related areas;
- Experience in building working relationships with others from different backgrounds;
- Experience working with external stakeholders from industry or the public sector;
- Experience of combining diverse data sources in research projects;
- Previous broad based scholarly experiences, for instance, contributions to individual and collaborative research projects, research proposals and applications for funding.

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

Contact information

To explore the post further or for any queries you may have, please contact:

Professor Michelle Morris, Professor Data Science for Food

Email: m.morris@leeds.ac.uk



Additional information

Find out more about the [Faculty of Environment](#).

Find out more about the [School of Food Science and Nutrition](#)

Find out more about the [Leeds Institute for Data Analytics](#)

Find out more about [Athena Swan](#) in the Faculty

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.

Criminal record information

Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

A criminal record check is not required for this position. However, all applicants will be required to declare if they have any 'unspent' criminal offences, including those pending.

Any offer of appointment will be in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our [Criminal Records](#) information page.

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Visa Information

Please note that this post may be suitable for sponsorship under the Skilled Worker visa route but first-time applicants might need to qualify for salary concessions. For more information please visit: www.gov.uk/skilled-worker-visa.

For research and academic posts, we will consider eligibility under the Global Talent visa. For more information please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/global-talent>

