

**Graduate Research Assistant**  
Life Span Institute, University of Kansas  
JUNIPER GARDENS CHILDREN'S PROJECT  
**Position Description**

Juniper Gardens Project is a community-based research institute affiliated with the University of Kansas. We are seeking a bilingual (Spanish/English) speaking graduate research assistant (Part time; .50 EFT) to conduct literacy and language assessments of preschool children, carry out classroom observations, and implement early literacy and language interventions in community-based preschool programs as part of a federally funded Pre 3-T program. Candidate must have strong organizational skills oral and written skills as evidenced in work history. Must have reliable transportation and must be flexible in scheduling around classroom schedules. Must pass a background check. Continuation is dependent on yearly funding and satisfactory yearly evaluation.

**Job Duties**

1. Administer literacy and oral language assessments with preschool children, conduct classroom observations on teachers and conduct interviews with teachers whose primary language is Spanish to compile information about their perceptions of early literacy instruction with the purpose of discovering if intervention is effective (50%).
2. Conduct early literacy and oral language interventions with small groups of preschool children in early childhood classrooms to monitor effectiveness of literacy interventions.(25%).
3. Complete project paperwork associated with data collection and data entry (10%).
4. Attend and participate in monthly parent meetings with families whose children are participants in the research project in order to teach parents about early literacy activities they can do at home (10%).
5. Translate documents from English into Spanish and interpret translations at project meetings (5%).

**Required Qualifications:**

1. Current enrollment in 6+ hours in KU graduate program in Special Education, Social Work, Counseling, School Psychology, or related field
2. Fluent in Spanish as evidenced by at least one year of translation and interpreting experience, as a native speaker or four semesters of successful completion of university-level courses in Spanish.

**Note:** Candidate must pass a background check.

**Preferred Qualifications**

1. One year's minimum experience teaching preschool children
2. One year's minimum experience administering standardized assessments with preschool-aged children
3. One year's minimum experience carrying out language or literacy interventions with young children in inner-city communities
4. One year's minimum experience working with Spanish-speaking families.

**FTE:** Salary is based on 20 hours per week

**SALARY:** \$15.71-\$17.00, hourly; \$620.40-\$680.00 biweekly, at .50 FTE, commensurate with education and work experience.

**DEADLINE/START DATE:** Review of applications will begin November 4, 2009 continue until position is filled. Starting date is when the position is filled.

**TO APPLY:** All applicants must provide a cover letter, resume, and contact information for 3 professional references. To apply send application materials to Mary Abbott @ [mabbott@ku.edu](mailto:mabbott@ku.edu), 913-321-3143.

The University of Kansas is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. The University encourages applications from underrepresented group members. Federal and state legislation prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, disability, and veteran status. In addition, University policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, marital status and parent status. **EO/AA**