THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE UT

Interested in pursuing a Ph.D. in Kinesiology while doing research in physical activity epidemiology?

Dr. Zan Gao in the Department of Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport Studies at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville is recruiting up to two graduate assistants (GAs) beginning Fall 2024. These positions are eligible for renewal, contingent on scholastic and academic performance. The GAs will work at the [Physical Activity Epidemiology Laboratory](#).

Responsibilities: The successful GRAs will complete graduate coursework and fulfill all program requirements in the emphasis area of Physical Activity Epidemiology. In addition, the GAs will conduct laboratory- and field-based physical activity epidemiology research under Dr. Gao's guidance.

Required Qualifications: Earned Bachelors (Masters preferred) in Kinesiology or related field, and full admission to the Kinesiology graduate program at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville is required. The applicant should have experience in conducting research and/or working with pediatric and clinical populations.

Preferred Qualifications: (a) strong work ethic; (b) enthusiastic; (c) ability to write research manuscripts and abstracts; (d) experience with accelerometer/pedometer and interview data collection and analysis; (e) experience working with population-based physical activity interventions.

Stipend and Benefits:
The GA will receive a stipend of approximately $20,000 for the 9-month academic year appointment, with additional fees covering tuition and health benefits. Summer research or teaching assignment will also be possible.

Application Procedures:
To receive the fullest consideration for the GA positions, the applicant should submit all required application materials to the University no later than December 15, 2023.

For more information about the positions, applicants may contact:

Zan Gao, PhD; Professor and Department Head
Director of Physical Activity Epidemiology Laboratory
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The University of Tennessee, Knoxville
UTK is Tennessee's flagship land grant university and is currently in the midst of unprecedented growth in enrollment, with over 36,000 enrolled students. The University is also a Carnegie Foundation Research (R1) University with highest research activity and has achieved a Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement. UTK has a competitive benefits package. Forbes Magazine recently ranked UTK as one of the best places to work in the US, including a ranking of ninth among public higher education institutions in the United States.

The Department of Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport Studies
The Department of Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport Studies is home to over 40 faculty and staff members. The department provides near 2,000 undergraduate students an opportunity to major in either kinesiology or recreation and sport management. Approximately 120 Graduate students (MS and PhD programs) can choose to specialize in exercise physiology, biomechanics, sport psychology/motor behavior, physical activity epidemiology, sport management, therapeutic recreation, or socio-cultural studies. In addition to our majors, the department also serves approximately 5,500 students per year in the Physical Education Activity Program.

Physical Activity Epidemiology Laboratory
The mission of the Physical Activity Epidemiology Laboratory is to improve the health of Americans through empirical research, increasing public awareness, and policy advocacy on issues in relation to physical activity intervention, physical activity correlates, physical health, and obesity. The laboratory is equipped with a variety of active video games and VR stations, exercise stations, activity monitors, fitness testing and other equipment. Laboratory activities include qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection, intervention development and design, evaluation of intervention outcomes and processes, and data analysis. A number of software are housed in the laboratory and used for research, teaching and service.