

Research Assistant Position(s)

Posting date: March 12, 2024

Closing date: March 26, 2024

The Faculty of Law, Queen's University, requests applications from suitably qualified JD and graduate students interested in a Research Assistant ("RA") position working with Dean Colleen M. Flood and Senior Research Associate, Bryan Thomas.

Description:

Dean Flood is seeking up to two Research Assistants to work in two research streams:

1. **Machine M.D.:** This project seeks to develop policy options for the optimal governance of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies in healthcare in Canada. Through a series of case studies and comparative legal studies, we analyze existing legal governance of AI in health care and develop proposals to clarify, harmonize, and reform laws as needed. The project is a collaboration between leading scholars, innovators, decision-makers, and medical personnel. Students with an interest or background in health law and policy and/or law and AI are encouraged to apply.

We anticipate working on research and articles over the summer relating to improving Canada's regulation of medical devices with artificial intelligence and comparing this to approaches proposed in Europe and the US. A RA will also be charged with helping organize a conference in the Fall relating to how AI will shape the future of work in health care.

2. **HTA and the Law:** Prior to being covered by public insurance, new health technologies are assessed for their clinical and cost effectiveness, in a process called 'Health Technology Assessment' (HTA). HTA increasingly incorporates assessment of the legal and ethical concerns raised by a technology. This project analyzes the extent to which Canadian HTA bodies have considered important legal issues. We work with representatives of HTA bodies from other countries, and international HTA scholars, to create and test tools that will equip HTA bodies to identify and prioritize legal issues for deeper analysis. Students with an interest in health law and policy are encouraged to apply.

We anticipate working over the summer on issues relating to HTA of artificial intelligence tools for health care and the particular legal issues relating to AI that HTA bodies should

consider; for example, whether the AI tool has been sufficiently designed from the perspective of privacy requirements or to mitigate against algorithmic bias.

Other research topics, in the general area of health law and policy, may surface over the summer. RAs will work independently, with weekly check-ins of the research team.

Qualifications:

JD or graduate law candidates

Background in health law/policy is an asset but not a prerequisite

The work can be done remotely. RAs must have access to high-speed internet and a computer that meets minimum requirements. All work can be completed during the regular 9-5 work week, but candidates can work outside of that time frame if they prefer.

Length of contract: 12 weeks (May to August 2024)

Proposed start date: May 1, 2024 (negotiable)

Hours per week: 35 hours per week

Hourly Rate*: \$22 hour/JD Students; \$41.14/Graduate Students (+4% in lieu of vacation)

***Note: Graduate RAs are represented by PSAC Local 901, Unit 1 and are subject to the terms and conditions outlined in the Collective Agreement.**

Application Procedure

Queen's is strongly committed to employment equity, diversity, and inclusion in the workplace and encourages applications from Black, racialized/visible minority and Indigenous people, women, persons with disabilities, and 2SLGBTQ+ persons. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, in accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada will be given priority.

Interested applicants should submit the following materials:

- (1) a cover letter indicating your interests and experience related to the research
- (2) a resume/CV
- (3) informal transcripts from both Queen's Law and your undergraduate program of study.
Transcripts can be unofficial (e.g. SOLUS pdf, etc.)
- (4) a writing sample of work that the applicant has authored



Bryan Thomas, on behalf of Dean Flood, will follow up with applicants directly.

Please address applications to:

Diana Turner-Oke, Human Resources and Staffing Officer

Email: lawpositions@queensu.ca

The University will provide support in its recruitment processes to applicants with disabilities, including accommodation that takes into account an applicant's accessibility needs. If you require accommodation during the application process, please contact Diana Turner-Oke.

For additional details and information on the position, please contact:

Diana Turner-Oke, Human Resources and Staffing Officer

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