

Winter 2021 U-M Research Assistant(s) Opportunity

Topic: Study of changing workplace practices in response to COVID-19 in the global food supply chains

Call for Applications: Deadline November 30, 2020 (Midnight)

Eligibility: U-M undergraduate (at least two years of completed college education) and Graduate level students

About the Research Assistant Position:

The University of Michigan President's Advisory Committee on Labor Standards and Human Rights (PACLSHR) provides the University of Michigan President with advice concerning University policies and procedures to address labor and human rights issues in the production of licensed goods - items sold with the University of Michigan's name, logos, or other symbols. PALCHSR also supports broader research and education related to labor standards and human rights in supply chains.

The PACLSHR is now soliciting applications from students interested to work on a research project to explore the changing workplace practices in response to COVID-19 in the global food supply chains. Study objectives will include: (i) Understanding how COVID-19 and responses to the pandemic impacted the working conditions throughout the different stages of global food supply chains; (ii) Identifying the existing and newly exposed areas of labor and human rights risks including but not limited to workplace health and safety; (iii) Evaluating the effectiveness of any initiatives or measures to mitigate those risks; and (iv) Suggesting how the best practices could be incorporated into labor standard codes.

The final deliverable from this effort will be a presentation to the PACLSHR committee and a final report.

Duration of Research Assistant Project: February 1, 2020 - April 20, 2020

Required Time: 10 - 15 hours per week

Funding: University RA rates apply. Graduate students – please note that this position is not part of the Graduate Student Research Assistantship (GSRA) program. Students will instead be compensated on hourly rates set by the university.

Supervision: TBD (select PACLSHR committee members)

Desired qualifications / skills:

- Graduate student or Undergraduate student with at least two years of college education completed;
- Basic computer skills (Excel, Word, PowerPoint, internet, etc.)
- Interest in Labor standards, human rights & food supply chains
- Ability to communicate at a high level through phone calls, presentations, reports
- Ability to work in a team, manage a project, and create and stick to a work plan
- Ability to see the strategic big picture as well as pay attention to details

Application process: There is no application "form" as such. Applicants are to submit materials by email to PACLSHRApplications@umich.edu (use subject line as "**PACLSHR – RA Position for Workplace practices, COVID-19 and Food Supply Chains**");

1. An up-to-date CV/resume.
2. A 150-300 word statement in PDF format explaining your interest in this research assistant position; you may also indicate any relevant academic training that prepares you to undertake the proposed project.
3. Current transcripts. Wolverine Access copies are acceptable for this purpose.

A faculty subcommittee of the PACLSHR will review applications to form a team with diverse skill sets to ensure project success. Applicants are encouraged to email questions not answered in this announcement to PACLSHRApplications@umich.edu.