The Language, Experience, and Development (LEAD) lab at the University of Maryland, College Park, directed by Dr. Rachel Romeo (she/her/hers), is seeking a lab manager (official title: faculty assistant). Expected start date is June 2022, though earlier is also possible.

The LEAD lab investigates how children’s early experiences influence their neural and cognitive development, with a strong focus on language, literacy, and communicative development. We combine methods from developmental psychology, cognitive neuroscience, communication sciences, and education to study how developing brains adapt to varying environments and lead to unique developmental paths. A primary focus is to better understand both the causes and consequences of socioeconomic disparities in learning and development, and how translational science may better support educational equity.

The lab manager will be responsible for overseeing the daily operations of the lab, including recruiting families and community partners, implementing behavioral and neuroimaging studies (primarily MRI and NIRS), managing data storage and processing, teaching, and supervising undergraduate research assistants to implement studies and process data, coordinating IRBs and other research documentation, and managing lab equipment and the lab website. A primary duty will involve overseeing the day-to-day functions of a NICHD funded study of how dimensions of caregiver-child interaction scaffold neural systems for language, executive functioning, and social cognition. The lab manager will also have the opportunity to develop own research projects, co-author manuscripts, and attend conferences. This position is ideal for an individual interested in gaining additional research experience before applying to graduate programs or research-related careers.

Qualifications include a bachelor’s degree in psychology, neuroscience, cognitive science, human development, communication sciences, computer science, or related field. Previous research experience, programming knowledge, and/or experience working with children and families is desirable, but not required.

Interested individuals should submit a cover letter; curriculum vitae; brief statement of commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice; and the names of two references at https://go.umd.edu/leadlabmanager. For best consideration, please apply by February 28, 2022.

The University of Maryland, College Park, an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer, complies with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action; all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment. UMD is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, pregnancy, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, religion, protected veteran status, genetic information, personal appearance, or any other legally protected status in all aspects of employment. UMD is actively engaged in recruiting, hiring, and promoting underrepresented communities; minorities, women, individuals with disabilities, and veterans are encouraged to apply.