

Vacancy announcement: Senior Research Officer

The International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA) is seeking a **Senior Research Officer** to join our IEA team in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. IEA conducts large-scale comparative studies of educational achievement and other aspects of education, with the aim of gaining in-depth understanding of the effects of policies and practices within and across systems of education.

Job description and responsibilities

IEA has a strong reputation amongst researchers due to our rigorous research standards and focus on quality. The Translation Verification and International Quality Control (TIQ) team at IEA Amsterdam manages key aspects of the quality assurance procedures for IEA studies. In addition, the TIQ team assists in study management, country recruitment, and research activities within IEA.

In recent years, IEA has transitioned to computer-based assessment for all of its core studies. This change impacts the study instrument preparation and data collection procedures. Building on these new procedures, the primary role of the **Senior Research Officer** would be to support the improvement and implementation of translation verification procedures (such as the integration of computer-assisted translation tools or other online platforms that facilitate the translation and translation verification processes) as well as international quality control procedures for IEA studies, ensuring that technology-assisted and forward-looking procedures are implemented. In addition, the **Senior Research Officer** will be involved in promoting IEA studies in both national and international contexts by attending international research conferences and meetings relevant to the association. He/she will also have active involvement in the country registration process for IEA studies and will support the participating countries during the project cycle.

The **Senior Research Officer** will collaborate closely with TIQ team members on the above mentioned activities and report to the Head of TIQ. This is an excellent opportunity for the right candidate to grow their experience within the field of international large-scale assessment.

Key responsibilities for the position include:

- Executing translation verification and quality control activities in all IEA studies and communicating and collaborating with International Study Centers, National Research Coordinators and other country representative, and other IEA staff;
- Actively involved in developing and implementing improved translation verification procedures specifically designed for computer-based assessment with a forward-thinking approach to the use of AI in translation and translation verification procedures;
- Contributing to the implementation and innovation of international quality control monitoring procedures across IEA studies;
- Contributing to the development of procedural methods and publications, including contributing to writing manuals for use in IEA studies and describing procedures in Technical Report chapters;
- Contributing to TIQ involvement in IEA studies and projects by actively participating in IEA international project meetings and National Research Coordinator meetings;
- Liaising with other teams at IEA Amsterdam and IEA Hamburg to help streamline processes and procedures for which TIQ has primary responsibility but which impact the organization as a whole;
- Supporting in research-related activities, as needed, such as assisting in the coordination of IEA's

- Research and Development Fund, monitoring current research for new procedures and methods relevant to the work of the TIQ team, and supporting in simple statistical analysis;
- Other duties as assigned by IEA Amsterdam.

Profile

The successful candidate will possess exemplary analytic, strategic, and flexible thinking skills, and cultural sensitivity for working within an international context.

Candidates must have proven experience in managing work processes or projects. Experience within the field of translation and translation technologies is a bonus.

- Right to work in the Netherlands
- Minimum qualifications: 1) An advanced university degree (minimum a Master's degree, preferably a Phd), in education, languages (translation technology, linguistics), social studies (sociology, psychology) or other relevant discipline; 2) a minimum of three years of relevant work experience
- Familiarity with translation technologies
- Quantitative research skills and familiarity with statistical methods (experience using SPSS, SAS and/or R); familiarity with educational assessments is an advantage
- Experience in project and/or program management and research communications
- Excellent written and verbal English communication skills. Additional language skills are an asset
- Ability to manage a busy workload with changeable deadlines
- Strong interpersonal skills and ability to collaborate effectively with other partners in a global and multicultural environment
- Ability to travel

Additional information

The position is full-time and based in Amsterdam. An initial one-year contract will be offered, with the opportunity to discuss possible renewal prior to the end of the contract term.

In addition, we offer:

- A 60/40% working from office/home policy
- 25 paid holidays
- Laptop and software tools in the office and for home
- A competitive compensation & benefits package

The working language for IEA is English. We welcome international and multilingual applicants.

Desired starting date: 1 January 2024

Closing date: 6 October 2023

Interested candidates should send an application (cover letter, comprehensive curriculum vitae and desired salary range) by e-mail to hr@iea.nl. Please include "Research Officer (IEA Amsterdam)" in the subject line. For informal enquiries about this role, please contact Lauren Musu, Head of Translation Verification and International Quality Control, l.musu@iea.nl.

Interviews will be held during the week commencing 9 October at IEA Amsterdam.

Homepage: <http://www.iea.nl>