

Select the best fit Title/Series from the appropriate category section below to aid in the “statement of duties” for a Research WOC or Research IPA selection.

The categories fall into three distinct role types: Support, Leadership, and Medical:

1. **“Research Assistant”, “Research Associate”, or “Research Coordinator”**– Are generic terms used in Research, primarily WOC or IPA Business Titles for Staff in supporting roles projects. These positions could have contact with research subjects by providing questionnaires, assisting, or taking vitals. Below provides the best official position title placement for pre-employment purposes:
 - 1531 Statistical Assistant: Incumbent functions as a data manager with responsibility for working with data utilizing statistical methods. The incumbent will also design, test, implement and monitor data collected as part of health status questionnaires, production and testing to ensure validity and reliability, and trouble shooting during the course of the study. Establishes and monitors data collection timelines and response rates, ensuring completeness of the process. Assists the PI in data control procedures including preliminary analyses, editing and correction of errors, and preparation of data files for analysis and final reports of study findings.
 - 1529 Mathematical Statistician: Incumbent coordinates the development and testing of statistical applications, with minimum supervision. May recommend modifying standard statistical methodology where experimental approach would lead to more relevant results and efficient utilization of a team effort. Defines the problem, project design and choice of statistical analytic method. Analysis of variance (ANOVA) and covariance (ANCOVA), linear/multiple regression or generalized linear models, etc. and general estimating for data analysis, including handling and modeling of missing data and multiple imputation techniques. Assists and supervises the manuscript and abstract writing related to statistical analysis and may participate on new project funding submissions.
 - 1530 Statistician: Incumbent uses statistical and database computer programs to construct and manage datasets and databases relevant to projects. Checks validity of data and programs through use of frequencies, listings, summaries, and calculation of meaningful data metrics. Conducts univariate and multivariate statistical data analyses. Conducts multivariate regression analyses using ordinary least squares, logistic, and survival models. Reviews analytical results for accuracy and completeness. Develops and maintains systems and databases designed to ensure that research projects comply with administrative policies, procedures and requirements set forth by entities. Codes data and summarizes it in tables and graphs.
 - 1550 Computer Scientist: Incumbent develops programming specifications, designs, writes, tests and validates a variety of custom software applications to support a wide range of data collection and analysis needs or research studies; provide standardized documentation of programs, evaluation and modification. Applies relational databases and software development to research experience within the framework of health services research. Resolves unusual, novel and difficult problems that surface relating to the collection of research data, particularly

related to the use of existing VA datasets and the development of novel electronic data collection applications.

- 0671 Health Systems Specialist: Incumbent reviews and analyzes healthcare system operating and financial data as necessary in order to accomplish specific projects or tasks. Presents findings, outlining specific results, anticipated ramifications, correlating factors, and appropriate recommendations. Reviews data with appropriate staff elements to improve/enhance reliability and/or determine potential policy revisions or reviews. Prepares summary reports, memos, official letters/etc. in response to requirements or tasks. Develops and sustains communication with other VHA elements, represents the research interests and performs liaison activities.
- 0640 Health Technician: The incumbent will assist with multiple research and administrative duties, providing support to research personnel staff in the conduct and coordination of research projects, educational activities, and clinical demonstration projects. Will assist in the conduct of human research studies, assist with clinical and scientific research, and capture data via spreadsheet and database software. May screen, recruit and assess potential patients for research or clinical demonstration eligibility, review charts and clinical cases, and consult with eligible patients on study parameters.
- 0601 Health Science Specialist: The incumbent will provide operational support and coordination for the implementation of VA research and quality improvement projects as directed, handles project questions and problem independently in coordination with the PI. Manages timelines and deliverables for successful completion of the projects, writes research policies, guidelines and procedures, and other documents, facilitating the compliance with all regulatory and administrative project requirements. May be responsible for medical abstraction activities, including identifying and screening eligible candidates and validating appropriate data elements of the project.
- 0101 Social Science Analyst/Social Science Program Coordinator: The incumbent prepares, maintains regulatory documentation for assigned studies, maintains research data and protocol manuals, and collects information needed to produce written progress reports. Develops and maintains appropriate communications, rapport, and positive working relationships with a variety of professionals and specialized services. Participates in meetings with interdisciplinary faculty research and representatives of community agencies, and will be required to organize, write, and present research project summaries at team meetings. Ensures the research staff collect data according to pre-defined, study specific protocols.
- 0404 Biological Laboratory Technician (Can be parenthetical "Animal"): The incumbent will assist with laboratory studies and data analysis. Will be responsible for performing and assisting with laboratory experiments including cell culture and staining of tissue sections. If parenthetical "Animal" may also perform: Perfusion fixation of rodents and processing brains for histological examination. The employee will also genotype animals, assist with animal experiments, run DNA gels and western blots. This includes gene delivery experiments, and genotyping of transgenic animals. In concert with the staff of the Animal Facility and the PI, the incumbent will help evaluate the health, well-being, and behavior of the animals before, during and after research experiments.

- 5048 Animal Caretaker: The incumbent is responsible for animal husbandry and care and attendant housekeeping. Observes animals for changes in condition daily, assists in prophylactic treatment and simple medications, restrains/holds/handles all animals for various ARF manipulation, collects biological specimens (feces, urine, blood, microbiological), and provides food water and cage care to the animals.

2. **“Research Investigator”** – Is a generic term used in Research, primarily WOC or IPA Business Titles for Staff in higher level/leadership positions of projects. These positions could be lab based (exposure to biohazards and chemicals) or could be human based and could have contact with research subjects by providing questionnaires, assisting with exercises, or taking vitals.

Below provides the best official position title placement for pre-employment purposes:

- 0401 Research Biologist/Microbiologist/Neurologist: Incumbent will establish a research program and project to conduct grant-specific studies. Will develop, adapt and pursue new experimental methodology as needed to fulfill research objectives. Coordinate ongoing studies with other investigators, collaborate with expertise, and design/write VA research applications and publish study results. Will provide and present oral and written research presentations and identify clinically relevant areas for future investigations.
- 0601 Health Scientist: The incumbent is responsible for planning and carrying out research projects and related analyses for several broad areas and overseeing the work of the research project staff. Will direct all research, educational programs, training, translational activities, and administrative oversight for funded programs of research and proposed programs of research. May initiate and conduct their own original research projects and provide consultation to other investigator’s ongoing projects and research proposals.
- 0101 – Qualitative Scientist - The position performs qualitative analysis, coordination, and technical management in a comprehensive research setting, providing day-to-day qualitative data management and site support for the VA Research Program.
- 0671 Health Systems Specialist: Incumbent applies solid healthcare leadership skills and innovation in planning, designing, integrating, implementing, and evaluating complex clinical and administrative activities. Incumbent serves as primary leadership for the project with direct impact to the research program. Prepares reports and recommendations for executive leadership to manage healthcare resources, assure customer satisfaction, improve clinical quality, and support evidence-based clinical care practices.
- 1515 Operations Research Analyst: Incumbent will oversee research project(s), independently design, conduct and coordinate health services program evaluation, cost studies, and research projects. Incumbent will use expert knowledge of health services, health economics, and health outcomes research to provide expertise and leadership for research operations planning, organization, development and direction of the various components and programs of the project. Will lead care and cost management evaluation activities by analyzing, forecasting and monitoring data for health care outcome improvement.

3. **Other Categories:**

- 0610 Research Nurse: Incumbent is responsible and accountable for all elements of the nursing process when providing and/or supervising direct patient care. Assumes responsibility for the coordination of care focused on patient education, self-management, and customer satisfaction throughout the continuum of care. Administers medications and procedures per established policies and guidelines. Influences care outcomes by collaborating with members of the interdisciplinary team. Core elements of performance include knowledge and active participation in the unit/program level quality improvement process and initiatives as well as customer service programs.
- 0602 Research Physician: The scope of practice may be with direct patient care, or is executive nature, comprised of complex leadership and administrative components, associated with critical research project development and activities that influence the organizational mission, health care, and policy at the national level. May develop recommendations for data collection and defining metrics for projects as necessary. Will publish research findings as appropriate.
- 0180 Research Psychologist: The incumbent will conduct independent research on the clinical, affective, social, neurocognitive, motivational, and neurophysiological factors related to serious mental illness and/or develop and test innovative psychotherapeutic interventions to promote functional recovery in a clinical population and collaborate with other VA investigators engaged in psychological and psychiatric research. The incumbent will perform all required research related activities and regulatory affairs as well as the supervision of project staff activities including data entry, subject recruitment, and enrollment. The incumbent will participate in the scientific and research training activities and publish research findings as appropriate.