

RESEARCH ASSISTANT POSITION AVAILABLE

Project Description

I am currently hiring a research assistant (RA) for a SSHRC-funded project I am co-leading, titled: Children On The Move: Post-arrival Experiences of Young Refugees in Ottawa (**Ethics Protocol Clearance ID: Project # 124712**).

I'm working with Samaritan House Immigrant Services and Immigrant Integration Support Services, along with researchers from the University of Ottawa and the University of Victoria. Together, we're leading this project to better understand the experiences of refugee children/youth (ages 10–18) who are now living in Ottawa. Using participatory methods, we explore in detail, through first-person narratives of young refugees' post-arrival experiences and emotions, how they adapt and thrive in Canada. Our research will contribute to the knowledge necessary for improving how young refugees manage migration and long-term settlement in Canada.

At this stage, the primary research objectives are:

- i) Analyze young refugees' first-person narratives of migration and adaptation after arriving in Ottawa.
- ii) Explore how young refugees express their emotions after arriving.
- iii) Document youth-led strategies for co-creating and co-mobilizing knowledge about their post-arrival experiences.

The relevance and importance of the objectives for all members of the partnership: The university partners (Carleton University, University of Victoria, and University of Ottawa) will benefit from advancing scholarship on the post-arrival experiences of young refugees and will establish a new research collaboration with knowledge users in Canada's refugee services sector. The research outcomes will also inform the policies, advocacy efforts, and programs of invited partners (SHIS and IISSO) and other knowledge users. This project will likewise promote scholarship across various disciplines, including child and youth studies, social work, immigration and refugee law, social policy, public policy, diaspora studies, sociology, migration studies, and public health.

Job Description

The RA contract is approximately 12 weeks long, requiring 5 hours per week, from early October 2025 to the third week of January 2026 (the start and end dates are negotiable). This RA position may be renewable for the Winter and Spring terms in 2026.

The RA tasks will include: (1) recruiting, interviewing, and in some cases transcribing interviews, (2) organising workshops, (3) participating in analysing document-based data, (4) assisting in project and data management, (5) developing online surveys and implementing online data collection methods, and (6) performing other research-related tasks as they arise.

Skills and Interests of the Successful Candidate

Having skills to utilize online resources, including social media, website development, meeting organization, information sharing with participants, conducting focus groups and individual interviews, and facilitating team meetings, is essential. The project already includes a small team of RAs at partner universities who bring various types of expertise, experience, or skills. The ideal candidate for this RA position is someone with substantial knowledge of issues related to immigration and resettlement, the ability to speak another language besides English or French, and a strong personal and scholarly interest in addressing issues of human displacement, trauma, and resettlement.

The successful candidate will demonstrate strong critical thinking skills, excellent written and oral communication abilities, solid research competencies, and experience with secondary literature, data collection and analysis. They will also possess some theoretical knowledge and familiarity with qualitative research methods. Additionally, the candidate should be well-organized, reliable, punctual, and detail-oriented.

Applications must be submitted by current full-time students at Carleton University. The ideal candidate is a graduate student (i.e., PhD student) in the early stages of their degree program. Preference will be given to students who plan to continue their studies at Carleton and intend to write a thesis (or major research paper) in this area of study.

Hourly wage is negotiable and will depend on the degree program and experience.

Additional Benefits for The RA

The RA will receive training in both primary and secondary research literature. They will develop skills in qualitative methods. The student will enhance their research abilities, including conducting sensitive research with children and youth. They will also be provided with mentorship and coaching to improve their skills in research methods, writing, and communication.

How to Apply

Applications are due by Monday, September 31, 2025, at 4:00 PM EST. Only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. Applicants should submit via email: (1) a *brief* cover letter explaining their interest in the project and highlighting their skills, education, and work experience, (2) a CV or resume, and (3) the name and contact details of at least one academic reference.

Applications should be addressed to Nimo Bokore (I am an Associate Professor at the School of Social Work) and sent to nimo.bokore@carleton.ca

Please use the subject heading: "RA Application for Children On The Move Project."