



**Family Violence & Sexual Assault Institute (FVSAD), Institute on Violence, Abuse & Trauma (IVAT)  
SAN DIEGO, CA**

**POSITION TITLE:** Forensic Research Assistant Intern  
**REPORTS TO:** Dr. Shaw, Clinical & Forensic Training Coordinator  
**HOURS:** 9:00am – 5:00pm, flexible schedule (30 hours/week)  
**EMPLOYMENT STATUS:** Part-time

**INSTITUTE ON VIOLENCE, ABUSE & TRAUMA (IVAT)**

Founded in 2005, IVAT is a non-profit organization located in San Diego, California. Our mission is to collaborate across disciplines to effectively address the implications of interpersonal violence across the violence through direct services, advocacy, and research-informed practices and policy. IVAT's mission is to improve the quality of life for individuals locally, nationally and internationally by disseminating information on interpersonal violence by conducting research and trainings, assisting with direct professional services, program evaluation, and consultations. We collaboratively build and host two international summits annually, many of which can be used toward specialty certificates and continuing education, and we provide professional and clinical services.

IVAT's forensic division serves clients in child custody, child abuse and interpersonal violence, sexual assault and trauma. Among the services the Forensic consulting team at IVAT addresses in criminal, civil, family, and juvenile legal settings are: child custody evaluations, forensic evaluations, expert witness testimony, and trauma-informed therapy.

**POSITION SUMMARY**

The Forensic Research Assistant Intern, under the general direction of the Forensic Training Coordinator and/or Executive Director, will be responsible for collecting social scientific research and case law to supplement expert witness testimony and related legal documentation. In addition to participating in the collection of data, responsible for working on a team to interpret intersectional research on trauma for peer-review publication and/or white papers. We are seeking committed students or professionals seeking experience in research with concentrated areas of interest in: interpersonal violence, sexual abuse/assault, childhood trauma, and intergenerational trauma.

**TYPICAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

*This is not an exhaustive task list but a list which provides the candidate with an idea of job expectations.*

1. Attend weekly Monday trainings in forensic psychology, and meetings to discuss areas of need for research to address interpersonal violence and implications of trauma.
2. Responsible for being familiar with social scientific research on child sexual abuse, interpersonal violence, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), and victimology.
3. Reviewing case law, Federal and State statutes for civil, criminal, family and juvenile legal systems.
4. Responsible for timely submission of research for expert witness testimony and/or legal documents.

5. Special Projects:
  - i. IVAT is a non-profit that has multiple partnerships in the community, nationally, and internationally. Eligible Research Assistants will be provided the opportunity to collect data and participate on single or multi-site studies.
  - ii. Research projects include analyzing and developing trauma-informed models, program evaluation, and victimization studies.
  - iii. Research projects concentrated on trauma will emphasize intersectionality, intergenerational trauma and recommendations for practitioners.
6. Other relevant duties as assigned.

## **POSITION REQUIREMENTS:**

- |                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Education:</b>                       | Minimum of a Bachelor's Degree required, Masters preferred.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Experience:</b>                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A degree in Anthropology, Criminology, Psychology, Sociology, Social Work or generalized Social Sciences are preferred.</li> <li>• Prior knowledge and experience in the fields of violence, abuse or trauma preferred.</li> <li>• Working knowledge of advanced planning; ability to initiate tasks and projects.</li> <li>• Demonstrated competency in advanced statistics (provide unofficial transcripts in application).</li> <li>• Working knowledge or proficient in SPSS software.</li> <li>• Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite Applications; Working knowledge of Microsoft Word, and Excel.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Skills, Knowledge and Abilities:</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ability to use sound judgment to achieve positive problem solving and reach successful decisions; knowledge to know when to consult a supervisor or manager.</li> <li>2. Ability to effectively interface with the public within an organization at all professional levels including staff and supervisors.</li> <li>3. Help to create a positive team environment. Exhibit willingness and enthusiasm to work with internal and external team members and community partners.</li> <li>4. Ability to effectively articulate positions in writing and verbal presentation.</li> <li>5. Ability to successfully work individually and as a team member.</li> <li>6. Ability to manage multiple tasks and projects with attention to detail and follow supervisor's instructions.</li> <li>7. Ability to effectively prioritize tasks and maintain a productive workload.</li> <li>8. Ability to practice IVAT's values of harmony, integrity, courage and excellence.</li> </ol> |
| <b>Other Requirements:</b>              | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Committed to the mission and vision of IVAT as an agent of change organization.</li> <li>2. Maintain a professional appearance and demeanor, and communicate effectively with peers and supervisors.</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

