

Post-Doctoral Researcher

CPWR—The Center for Construction Research and Training (www.cpwr.com) is the non-profit 501(c)(3) research, development and training arm of the North America's Building Trades Unions. Located in downtown Silver Spring, Maryland, CPWR focuses on eliminating injuries, illnesses, and fatalities among construction workers.

We are seeking a full-time post-doctoral researcher to contribute to our applied research program focused on improving safety, health, and well-being in the construction industry. The researcher will work on projects that identify and evaluate workplace hazards, develop evidence-based interventions, analyze injury and illness trends, and translate research findings into practical resources for workers, contractors, unions, employers, policymakers, and safety professionals. Additionally, the researcher will be able to devote 20% of their time to developing their own research portfolio.

Key Responsibilities

- Contribute to our research portfolio related to construction safety and health, including studies on injury prevention, occupational exposures, musculoskeletal disorders, mental health, emerging technologies, safety climate, and other priority hazards.
- Assist with the development of research protocols, data collection instruments, literature reviews, interview guides, surveys, and evaluation plans.
- Collect and analyze quantitative and qualitative data from sources such as surveys, interviews, focus groups, administrative data, field observations, and publicly available injury and employment datasets.
- Collaborate with construction workers, contractors, labor organizations, safety professionals, academic partners, and community or industry stakeholders to ensure research is relevant, ethical, and actionable.
- Prepare manuscripts for peer-reviewed publication, technical reports, research briefs, conference abstracts, presentations, and grant proposals.
- Support research-to-practice activities by translating findings into practical tools, training materials, toolbox talks, hazard alerts, infographics, webinars, and other resources for construction audiences.
- Assist with Institutional Review Board submissions, data management plans, project documentation, and compliance with applicable research ethics and confidentiality requirements.
- Present findings at professional conferences, stakeholder meetings, advisory groups, and internal project meetings.
- Mentor students, interns, or junior research staff as appropriate and contribute to a collaborative research environment.

Required Qualifications

- PhD, DrPH, ScD, or equivalent doctoral degree in occupational safety and health, public health, epidemiology, industrial hygiene, engineering, ergonomics, environmental health, sociology, psychology, data science, or a related field.
- Demonstrated interest in construction safety and health, occupational injury and illness prevention, worker health, or applied workplace research.
- Experience designing or implementing research studies and analyzing research data.
- Strong written and oral communication skills, including the ability to communicate scientific findings to both technical and non-technical audiences.

- Ability to work independently while contributing effectively to multidisciplinary research teams.
- Commitment to ethical research practices, worker-centered approaches, and respectful collaboration with diverse stakeholders.

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience with construction industry research, field-based data collection, union or contractor partnerships, apprenticeship or training programs, or occupational safety interventions.
- Knowledge of construction hazards such as falls, struck-by incidents, silica, noise, heat stress, ergonomics, opioid-related risks, suicide prevention, fatigue, emerging technologies, and climate-related hazards.
- Experience with statistical software, qualitative analysis software, survey platforms, data visualization tools, or mixed-methods research.
- Experience developing manuscripts for peer-reviewed, conference presentations, technical reports, or grant contributions.
- Familiarity with occupational safety and health agencies, standards, research programs, or construction safety organizations.
- Ability to develop practical research-to-practice products for worker, employer, and safety professional audiences.

Key Skills and Competencies

- Applied research design and project management
- Quantitative, qualitative, or mixed-methods analysis
- Scientific writing and publication development
- Stakeholder engagement and collaborative problem-solving
- Occupational safety and health knowledge
- Clear communication for practitioner and worker audiences
- Attention to detail, organization, and sound judgment

Appointment Details

This is a full-time, fixed-term post-doctoral appointment compensated at \$70,000 per year. Eighty percent of the post-doc researcher's time is expected to be devoted to our research program with 20% protected time for career development activities including preparation of manuscripts based on their dissertation and development of research funding applications. Preference will be given to candidates based in metropolitan Washington, D.C., and able to participate in our hybrid office environment. The initial appointment is expected to be a continuous 12-month period, with the possibility of renewal based on funding, performance, and project needs.

CPWR—The Center for Construction Research and Training does not sponsor applicants for work visas.

Compensation Package

Salary: \$70,000 per year

CPWR offers an exceptional benefits package including:

- Employer-supported participation in the United Healthcare medical, dental, vision and life insurance plan for employee and all dependents
- Employer paid participation in the AFL-CIO defined benefit pension plan (vesting after 3 years)
- Participation in the AFL-CIO 401(k) plan with employer match
- Paid vacation and sick leave
- 13 paid holidays each calendar year
- Hybrid work schedule: 2-3 days/week will be in office, others are remote; relaxed work environment

- 35-hour work week

Equal Employment Opportunity.

Application Materials and Submission Requirements

Email the following items to jobpostings@cpwr.com:

1. Cover letter describing research interests and relevant experience
2. Curriculum Vitae
3. One writing sample

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. The position is still available if the job announcement is posted.