

The Division Methods and Evaluation/Quality Assurance (head: Prof. Dr. Steffi Pohl) at the Department of Education and Psychology, Freie Universität Berlin, is looking for a

**Research Associate**  
**(Doctoral position, pay group 13, TV-L, 65%, limited to three years)**

**Application deadline: November, 9<sup>th</sup> 2020**

The division "Methods and Evaluation/Quality Assurance" (head: Prof. Dr. Steffi Pohl) conducts research on psychological methods. The division has a strong focus on psychometrics but also covers topics from the field of causal inference. The job position is part of the DFG-project 'Test-taking engagement and test-taking behavior: Modeling the processes underlying item nonresponse and guessing' (PI's Prof. Dr. Steffi Pohl and Dr. Jochen Ranger). The project will be carried out in cooperation with Prof. Dr. Matthias von Davier (Boston College), Dr. Esther Ulitzsch (IPN Kiel), and Timo Gnamb (IIfbi, Bamberg). Goal of the project is to draw conclusions on test motivation based on log-data from computer-based testing. In doing so, cognitive modelling will be combined with psychometric models.

**Your responsibilities:** The job holder is expected to work on the research topic within the DFG-project. This includes model development, simulation studies, empirical data analyses as well as presentation of the research on conferences and in publications. Additionally, the job includes cooperation with the corresponding PhD student in Halle as well as with the cooperation partners. An exchange and stay abroad with our cooperation partners is in principle possible and will be supported. The job holder performs organizational duties and provides support in supervising doctoral students and student assistants. The position is intended for academic qualification.

**Your profile:** Applicants for the position should have a Master's degree (or an equivalent degree) in Psychology, Statistics, or in a related field with a focus on quantitative methods as well as experience with or interest in the development of new statistical models. Strong English skills are expected. Applicants should be experienced with common statistical software and programming languages (e.g., R, Python, Matlab, JAGS, or Stan). Applicants should have previous experience and/or the willingness to work on the research topic of the project. Desirable personal qualities are autonomy and the ability to work in a team.

**We provide:** We provide participation in the broad national and international network of the division as well as a stimulating scientific environment at a University with a

strong focus on Research Methods and Statistics. Freie Universität Berlin is part of the Berlin University Alliance, one of the Universities of Excellence in Germany. It offers various highly sophisticated career advancement measures and a broad research environment of different universities and research institutes in Berlin.

Further information is available from Prof. Dr. Steffi Pohl (phone: +49 30 838 - 62 926, email: [steffi.pohl@fu-berlin.de](mailto:steffi.pohl@fu-berlin.de)).

**Application:** Applications should include a curriculum vitae, a letter of motivation, and a writing sample of recent work (e.g., master thesis). Applications can be sent electronically to the division's office in PDF format (preferably as a single document)

Judith Schmidt: [judith.schmidt@fu-berlin.de](mailto:judith.schmidt@fu-berlin.de)

or by mail to:

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Fachbereich Erziehungswissenschaft und Psychologie  
Wissenschaftsbereich Psychologie  
Methoden und Evaluation/Qualitätssicherung  
Frau Prof. Dr. Steffi Pohl  
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Please refer to the following identification number in your application: 12-70/2020

By submitting an online application you accept that your data will be processed and stored electronically. We further inform you that the Freie Universität in Berlin cannot be held accountable for the security of your electronically submitted data.