

Postdoctoral Associate Position
Rutgers Implicit Social Cognition (RISC) Laboratory – PI Luis M. Rivera
Application Deadline: August 17, 2026

Dr. Luis M. Rivera, Professor of Psychology at Rutgers University-Newark and Principal Investigator of the Rutgers Implicit Social Cognition (RISC) Lab (<http://risclab.rutgers.edu>), is accepting applications for a Postdoctoral Associate position. The Postdoctoral Associate will contribute to one or two related research tracks. The first will support PI Rivera's research program on implicit social cognition and social inequities. The second will support a collaborative, mixed-methods research project testing a model of colonialism, coloniality, and implicit racial identities.

The Postdoctoral Associate will be mainly responsible for making intellectual contributions to the PI's research program, including designing experiments and study materials; collecting, analyzing, and interpreting data; designing and implementing computational models; preparing scientific manuscripts for publication; and presenting research findings at professional conferences. The Postdoctoral Associate may also have opportunities to receive training in qualitative methodologies and data analysis techniques.

Additional responsibilities include collaborating with and mentoring a team of graduate and undergraduate student researchers. There may be opportunities for the Postdoctoral Associate to develop an independent research project in collaboration with the PI, if it aligns with the PI's broader goals and research interests.

Qualifications and Benefits

The Post-Doctoral Associate will receive a competitive salary (consistent with the Rutgers-AAUP-AFT Postdoctoral Associate collective bargaining agreement), comprehensive health insurance benefits, tax-advantaged savings plans, and funding to support professional travel and career development. The Postdoctoral Associate will also benefit from access to vibrant academic communities and resources across Rutgers University-Newark, and Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. The Postdoctoral Associate will participate in regular research meetings and professional development activities designed to support the career advancement of emerging scholars.

Minimum qualifications include a Ph.D. in Psychology or a closely related field. Excellent scientific writing skills are required, in addition to strong methodological and statistical modeling skills; excellent organizational, interpersonal, and communication skills; strong attention to detail; and the ability to work both independently and collaboratively while managing multiple projects and deadlines. Experience with research data collection platforms, including those with large datasets, and programming and statistical software, such as Qualtrics and R, is highly desirable.

Application

Applicants should submit: (1) a cover letter briefly describing their scholarly accomplishments, methodological expertise, and reasons for applying to the Postdoctoral Associate position (no more than 1 page), (2) a statement of research interests and accomplishments (no more than 3 pages), and (3) a CV that includes contact information for three professional references. Letters of recommendation will be requested from shortlisted candidates.

To ensure full consideration, applications should be submitted by August 17, 2026. The target start date is September 2026. Applicants should submit their materials to the Rutgers Employment Opportunities website, <https://jobs.rutgers.edu/postings/278959>. In addition, applicants should email a single PDF file containing all application materials to Dr. Luis M. Rivera at luis@psychology.rutgers.edu.