School of Public Health
BROWN UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT of BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Research Assistantship Agreement

Student RA:
Faculty Supervisor:

The RAship for the **Summer 2026** semester begins on **June 1, 2026, and ends August 31, 2026**.

In order to enhance clarity and set expectations for both the supervisor and student, it can be helpful to clearly outline elements of the RAship at the beginning of each term. The purpose of this agreement is to ensure that all parties come to a mutual understanding of the expectations involved in the RAship. General expectations are as follows:

- The student is responsible for working on the assigned project an average of 20 **hours per week** during the coming term, and not beyond this term unless the RAship is renewed.
- The RA supervisor is responsible for defining RA duties and directing the student's work during the term of the appointment.
- The supervisor and student work together to ensure that the RA has the resources and training to meet the designated responsibilities.
- The student RA is available to work during regular work hours during the semester, as outlined in the BSHS Handbook; any time off must be coordinated through the supervisor and should accommodate the needs of the project.
- The supervisor will be solicited for formal feedback as part of the yearly evaluation of students.
- Either the student or the RA supervisor can contact the Doctoral Program Director (DPD) to discuss any concerns that arise during the RAship.

The RA should initiate the process of filling out this form, confirming responsibilities and expectations with the RAship supervisor. The RA should share the completed copy with their supervisor by **June 1, 2026**.

Responsibilities and Expectations of Student's RAship (describe relevant details, such as hours, frequency of meetings, nature of work, products to be produced, benchmarks and timeline):

Updates are not needed for minor and mutually agreed-upon changes over the course of the semester (e.g., shifting work times); however, major changes in the RAship scope or expectations should trigger an updated agreement. We hope that this agreement helps foster conditions for a productive and enjoyable research experience.

Vacation Time During Summer 2026
The research assistant is not expected to work during holidays observed by Brown University, including:

Juneteenth (June 19)
Independence Day (July 4).

All other time off should be negotiated with the supervisor of the research assistantship, with care taken to minimize work disruptions whenever possible. At a supervisor's discretion, this time may be released or made up during subsequent weeks.