

[NEWS](#) | POSTED MARCH 3, 2025

Call for Applications: LEARN Program Mentors (Methodological & Scholarly Publishing & Peer Review)

Join a global initiative empowering early-career scholars from Ghana and Colombia through mentorship in research methods, scholarly publishing, and peer review. By becoming a mentor, you'll help advance the field, promote research equity, and strengthen global scholarly networks. Apply today and make a meaningful impact on global child development research.

Application Deadline: Sunday, March 23, 2025

Program Details

The Leverage Empower Advance Research Network (LEARN) Program is a [Jacobs Foundation](#) funded initiative [developed in partnership](#) with SRCD, ISSBD, New York University, Universidad de los Andes (Colombia), and the University of Cape Coast (Ghana), designed to empower early-career scholars in Ghana and Colombia to enhance their knowledge and skills in advanced child development research.

Through dedicated mentorship in research methods, scholarly publishing, and peer review—including collaboration with SRCD's upcoming *Reviewer Zero Global* pilot—LEARN bridges global research disparities, amplifies Majority World voices, and drives impactful global research collaboration through 2027. This initiative aligns with SRCD's commitment to fostering equitable research capacity and global scientific collaboration.

Mentor Roles SRCD Is Seeking

SRCD is seeking **Methodological Mentors** and **Scholarly Publishing & Peer Review Mentors** for the LEARN program. These mentors will guide early-career scholars from Colombia and Ghana through various stages of research and publication.

FYI: In addition to these two mentor roles, scholars will also engage with Primary Mentors sourced through partner organizations. Primary Mentors are responsible for providing tailored guidance based on the scholar's research interests and regional context. SRCD is only focused on recruiting Methodological and Scholarly Publishing & Peer Review Mentors for this call.

We are actively seeking mentors to help foster a global network of emerging researchers from Colombia and Ghana who are dedicated to advancing child development science. If you have expertise in longitudinal methods, psychometrics, proposal development, statistical software programs (R/SPSS/Stata), or peer review mentorship, we encourage you to apply. *Spanish fluency is highly preferred for those mentoring scholars from Colombia.*

Please review the following mentor roles and eligibility criteria to determine if your expertise aligns with our program's needs.

Mentor Roles & Eligibility Criteria:

Methodological Mentors

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Methodological Mentors will provide on-demand expert guidance and support to LEARN scholars in longitudinal methods, psychometrics, measure adaptation and development, and statistical analysis (R/Stata/SPSS). They will assist scholars with study design, statistical analysis, and research methodology as needed. *Spanish-speaking mentors are strongly preferred for mentors to Colombian scholars.*

- **Responsibilities:**

- Provide on-demand, 1:1 *methodological* guidance on longitudinal methods, psychometrics, tool development, and/or statistical software (R/Stata) as needed at different stages of the scholar's project.
 - Offer expertise in navigating key stages of research, ensuring mentorship is tailored to the scholar's current needs and progress.
 - Contribute to virtual workshops or seminars, if applicable and as time permits.
 - **Mentors are expected to commit 2-4 hours per month, depending on availability and scholar needs.**
- **Qualifications:**
 - Expertise in longitudinal methods, psychometrics, and/or measure development and/or adaptation.
 - Proficiency in statistical software (R/SPSS/Stata)
 - Experience in LMIC research contexts (**Sub-Saharan Africa** or **Latin America** preferred).
 - At least one peer-reviewed publication demonstrating methodological rigor.
 - Spanish fluency for mentors supporting Colombian scholars. *Preferred.*
 - Prior mentorship experience. *Preferred.*
 - Familiarity with cultural and institutional contexts in Ghana/Colombia. *Preferred.*
 - **SRCD membership is required** (non-members may apply but must join if selected).
 - We welcome applications from mentors at various professional stages, including more junior members, as long as they meet the core qualifications.

Scholarly Publishing & Peer Review Mentors (Reviewer Zero Global Pilot)

Scholarly Publishing & Peer Review Mentors will support LEARN scholars by providing iterative feedback on written products (proposals, manuscripts, conference submissions) to enhance the quality and impact of the scholar's work. They will assist the scholars with manuscript development and guide them through the peer review process by offering feedback aligned with the [Reviewer Zero](#) Formative and Interactive Review (FAIR) framework. Mentors will also

participate in co-reviewing with the Reviewer Zero organizing committee and may contribute to workshops on inclusive peer review practices. As part of the Reviewer Zero Global Pilot, mentors will not only help scholars amplify their research in international journals but also deepen their own expertise in advancing equity in peer review. *Spanish fluency is preferred for mentors working with Colombian scholars.*

- **Responsibilities:**

- Provide iterative feedback on written products (proposals, manuscripts, conference submissions) to enhance the quality and impact of scholars' work.
- Support scholars in navigating the peer review process, applying feedback from the **Reviewer Zero Formative and Interactive Review (FAIR)** framework.
- Work with scholars to develop their peer review skills, helping them understand how to respond to journal critiques constructively and become better peer reviewers themselves.
- Contribute to or lead workshops on inclusive peer review, focusing on advancing equity in scholarly publishing.
- **Mentors are expected to commit 2-4 hours per month, depending on availability and scholar needs.**

- **Qualifications:**

- Experience as a peer reviewer for academic journals (developmental science, education, or related fields).
- Record of publication(s) in LMIC research contexts.
- Familiarity with inclusive peer review practices and bias mitigation strategies.
- Spanish fluency for mentors supporting Colombian scholars. *Preferred.*
- Experience training early-career researchers in peer review processes. *Preferred.*
- **SRCD membership is required** (non-members may apply but must join if selected).

Benefits

- **Honorarium:** Receive a competitive stipend based on your role and level of engagement.
- **Global Network:** Connect with researchers worldwide and solidify your role as a mentor in child development science.

- **Skill Development:** Gain valuable experience in mentorship and peer review practices, enhancing your research expertise and mentoring strategies

How to Apply

*Your **application** should include the following:*

1. **Curriculum Vitae** highlighting relevant expertise.
2. **Statement of Interest** (500 words max) addressing:
 - Preferred role (Methodological/Peer Review Mentor).
 - Alignment with LEARN's goals and experience in LMIC contexts.
 - Description of language proficiency (Spanish fluency for Colombia-focused roles).

Selection Process

- Applications will be reviewed by SRCD and LEARN Program partners, including collaborators at NYU, ISSBD, and partner universities.
- Final mentor matches will be determined based on scholar needs, regional focus, and expertise alignment.
- Selected mentors will be notified in April with next steps.

SUBMIT BY Sunday, MARCH 23

For inquiries, please contact the SRCD Science & Publications Programs Specialist, Roman McNeil, at rmcneil@srcd.org.