

USC Behavioral and Health Genomics Center – “Ask Me” Job Postings

Who we are?

We are the world’s leading experts in social science genomics. That is, the genetics underlying behavioral traits like educational attainment, cognitive ability, depression, neuroticism, and happiness. Our multidisciplinary research has been published in top journals including *Science*, *Nature*, and *Nature Genetics*. See <https://cesr.usc.edu/cssg> and www.thessgac.org for more details.

What are we up to?

We are looking for passionate people to design and develop the next generation of our web and app platform, Ask Me, which will collect survey and genetic data from millions of people worldwide. We believe that these data will be transformative. Your work will make it possible to identify genetic variants related to a wide range of behavioral and personality traits such as optimism, trust, and risk-taking. Specifically, you will help us survey new populations and collect information on novel traits, reaching enormous numbers of users, by helping to build a user-friendly, engaging web and app platform. Our goal is to build a platform for personal science that advances scientific research and provides individuals with information about themselves.

Whom are we looking for?

We are looking for a student developer with strong familiarity of web application development and web architecture. While we are not looking for someone to work full-time, we are hoping you will be able to contribute each week, for an extended period of time.

Required:

- Extensive experience with ReactJS and modern front-end tooling (Webpack, Babel, Redux, Sagas) or related technologies
- Significant experience working with back-end services, database design, cloud deployment with AWS or related cloud providers
- Significant experience with software development best practices including version control, testing and proper documentation

Preferred:

- Some experience developing native apps
- Experience with functional programming languages and type systems
- Experience working with data visualizations in D3/SVG, R or related

What would my responsibilities be?

You would be responsible for developing the web application version of our app as well as contributing to development of our back-end services. We have developed a native Android

version of our app, powered by a NodeJS backend. We are exploring targeting other platforms that you could be involved with in the future.

What is the pay?

\$19/hr

How many hours a week would I work?

Likely between 5-20 hours per week, depending on our need and your availability.

How do I apply?

If interested, please email askmeapp.bhg@gmail.com with your resume, a cover letter explaining relevant work experience, and a brief statement about why you are interested. Please include links to relevant projects on Github or elsewhere—priority will be given to candidates who can show us prior work indicative of their ability to handle what we have in mind. Any other information you think relevant is welcome.

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