



**LAW AND SEX WORKER HEALTH (LASH) STUDY 2.0
RECRUITMENT CASUAL PEER RESEARCHERS**

LASH STUDY IN BRIEF

This project aims to investigate the impact of the law on WA sex workers; their health and safety; and the intersections between sex workers, service providers and police. The project will help assess the effectiveness of existing services, look at the impact of existing legislation relating to the sex industry, and to identify challenges sex workers might experience in accessing health services. It is hoped that the information collected through this study will contribute to decisions about the provision of health services to sex workers and to inform any future legislation relating to sex work.

JOB TITLE/STATUS OF POSITION

Peer researcher casual/part time. Hours are flexible and are to be decided on successful application for the position. The data collection phase of this project is expected to run for approximately 3 months (August – October) and successful applicants will be engaged for this period of time.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this position is to assist LASH research staff in the collection of data, which will ultimately contribute to publication of the study.

REMUNERATION/SUPERVISION

Peer researchers will be paid at the rate of \$35 an hour and will be responsible to the LASH Project Coordinator (Kahlia McCausland) and report to Julie Bates LASH consultant. Training will be provided before commencement of position.

LOCATION

Perth with some regional travel required – negotiable.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Application should be made in a letter describing your relevant knowledge, skills and experience, together with a short resume and at least 1 referee and should be forwarded to:

Curtin University
Ms Kahlia McCausland
School of Public Health
GPO Box U1987
Perth, WA 6845

Or via email: kahlia.mccausland@curtin.edu.au

CLOSING DATE

Close of business Thursday 3rd August 2016.



Key responsibilities and duties

- Attend team meetings and supervision as determined by senior research staff.
- Meet allocated team members and assemble questionnaires and other relevant materials in preparation for each occasion of visit to sex work workplaces or other nominated location.
- Visit sex work workplaces as allocated on roster (in consultation with senior research staff) in company with other researcher. NB all visits will be conducted in company of a senior research staff member.
- When on site invite owner/operator/receptionist to complete a questionnaire.
- With permission of owner/operator invite sex workers to participate in study giving information on purpose and confidentiality.
- On site visits, oversee completion of surveys and answer any questions at the outset of the process.
- Promote the sex worker survey to your contacts within the industry, particularly to sex workers who are not working in brothels/parlours.
- Some peer researchers may also be asked to contact sex workers in regional areas by telephone.
- Ensure payment made to sex worker study participants. This will usually be attended to by the senior researcher on site.
- Complete all documentation following visits.
- Ensure completed questionnaires and other documentation is kept secure and confidential until they can be delivered to the project headquarters (Curtin University).
- Honour roster and if unable to carry out duties advise project coordinator.
- Keep a record of hours of work, number of workplaces visited along with postcodes.
- Complete a weekly time sheet and email to project coordinator.
- Exercise ethical principles of professional practice regarding privacy and confidentiality issues of team members and study participants.



Knowledge, skills and experience required for the role

- Sex work experience (this is an essential requirement for this position).
- Understanding of the diverse gender, multicultural and multifaceted workplace settings of the sex industry in Western Australia.
- Health promotion or peer outreach experience as a paid or volunteer member of a sex worker or related service.
- Ability to build positive relationships and communicate with people of diverse backgrounds and abilities.
- Competence in using PC based office applications and internet.
- Commitment and ability to work as part of a professional team.
- Able to work under pressure and manage stress and competing responsibilities.
- Good written and oral communication skills.
- Current drivers licence.

Additional knowledge and experience that is desirable for the role

- Understanding of the legal and regulatory framework of the sex industry in Western Australia.
- Previous experience in data collection or other elements of social research.