



Jobbnorge ID: 282039

Deadline: 8/18/2025

Website: <http://www.hvl.no>

Scope: Fulltime

Duration: Fixed Term

Western Norway University of Applied Sciences (HVL)

Western Norway University of Applied Sciences (HVL) is one of the largest universities in Norway, with about 1,900 employees and 17,000 students spread across five campuses in Førde, Sogndal, Bergen, Stord, and Haugesund.

We have strong and innovative academic environments in health and social sciences, engineering and natural sciences, teacher education, economics, social sciences, and maritime studies.

HVL offers various one-year programs, as well as bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs.

HVL aims to be close to working life, the region, and the students, and aspires to become a university with a professional and labor-market-oriented profile.

The Faculty of Health and Social Sciences has approximately 400 employees and about 4,900 students. We offer a wide range of educational programs in health and social science professions, as well as continuing and further education, and several master's programs. The faculty offers the PhD program "Health, Function, and Participation." Additionally, the Faculty of Health and Social Sciences is co-responsible for the research area "Innovation in the Public Sector" within the cross-faculty PhD program Responsible Innovation and Regional Development (RESINNREG).

Our students receive extensive skills training in addition to practical placements, including communication exercises and testing at an advanced simulation center, SimArena. We employ flexible learning methods, challenging students to participate in research and development work.

PhD position in psychometrics and self-reported health data

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The PhD candidate will complete their PhD education within a 3-year full-time timeframe. Alternatively, by mutual agreement, the timeframe can be extended to 4 years, during which 25% of the time will be allocated to other career-promoting activities, such as teaching, development work, administration at HVL, or other tasks.

The PhD candidate will be part of the research group for personalized health services (PERSONFORSK), aiming to contribute high-quality, internationally recognized research that leads to better and more personalized health services. PERSONFORSK focuses particularly on healthcare, where the interaction between psychological, social, and somatic resources and challenges is crucial. The group's knowledge contributions are expected to have clear relevance and benefit for health services and users. PERSONFORSK is a highly active research group with award-winning researchers and several large ongoing projects.

The appointed candidate will join an exciting and strong academic environment with researchers from Norway and abroad.

Time may be deducted from the employment period for any prior recruitment positions.

This is a recruitment position designed to contribute to an active research environment at HVL.

The position is co-funded by the Sparebank Foundation Sogn og Fjordane.

A prompt start is desired.

Responsibilities and work areas:

The PhD candidate will work on the project "Measurement precision in self-reported health data: Longitudinal study of psychometric properties and precision." The overall aim of the project is to enhance mental health services by investigating the precision and interpretability of commonly used psychometric tools.

The project aims to enhance the accuracy of self-reported health data in mental health care by utilizing Norse Feedback (NF), a digital tool for measurement-based care (MBC). The project is part of larger datasets in already funded research projects in PERSONFORSK, and the appointed candidate will develop state-of-the-art skills in health statistics and data analysis. The study focuses on enhancing the interpretability and precision of NF scores by developing normative ranges and clinical thresholds for various mental health conditions.

Specific research questions include:

How does NF perform in both healthy and clinical Norwegian samples?

How can we develop normative and clinical scores that improve the interpretability of NF in public health services?

What level of change is necessary for patients to experience clinically meaningful improvement?

Through three empirical studies using different datasets, the project will help improve measurement-based practices and support the development of personalized, data-driven health services both regionally and internationally. After hiring, the candidate will develop a detailed project and education plan in collaboration with a supervisor, linked to the PhD program in Health, Function, and Participation at HVL.

The final doctoral plan must be approved and formalized within three months after employment.

Interested applicants should contact Professor Christian Moltu christian.moltu@helse-forde.no, the project leader, to obtain the preliminary project plan.

Qualification Requirements:

Requirements:

- Relevant master's degree in health sciences or other fields relevant to the project's tasks.
- Normally, a grade B or better on the master's thesis, and an overall grade average of B or better.
- The applicant must meet the admission requirements for the PhD program Health, Function, and Participation. <https://www.hvl.no/studier/studieprogram/helse-funksjon-og-deltaking/>
- Good skills in English, both written and oral.

Must be included with the application:

- Reflection letter (max 2 pages) outlining motivation for PhD studies, thoughts, and perspectives on the project's theme and methodology.
- Master's thesis
- Up to 5 scientific publications that the applicant wishes to be considered
- Diplomas and certificates
- Complete publication list

Desired qualifications:

- Experience in project work, dissemination, and supervision
- Previous publications relevant to the call
- Academic qualifications within the project's subject area
- Relevant methodological competence

Personal qualities:

- Strong communication and collaboration skills
- Ability to work efficiently and systematically
- Initiative and responsibility
- Enjoys working in interdisciplinary teams
- Innovation and implementation capacity
- Can work independently while contributing to the research group and academic environment
- High ethical awareness in research

How to Apply

Send your application and CV by clicking the "Apply for the position" button on this page.

Please note that the application will be assessed based on the information submitted via www.jobbnorge.no by the deadline. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure all relevant attachments are uploaded before the deadline, including:

- Master's thesis/main thesis
- Up to five scientific works to be considered
- Complete list of publications
- Reflection letter
- Certificates and diplomas

If diplomas, transcripts, or other documentation are not in a Scandinavian language or English, the applicant must upload certified translations. If attachments exceed 25 MB, they must be compressed or provided as links.

Applicants with foreign education must document the equivalency of their degree to a Norwegian bachelor's, master's, or PhD degree. See www.hkdir.no for more information. HK-dir offers automatic recognition for certain degrees from selected countries. Documentation of automatic recognition may suffice if applicable.

[Read more about automatic recognition here.](#)

We stress that the standard recognition process may take time. You should therefore apply for recognition as soon as possible if you intend to apply for the position. If you do not receive a response from HK-dir by the deadline, upload confirmation from HK-dir showing that your application has been received.

Hiring Process and Offer

Applicants for academic positions are evaluated by an expert committee based on documented qualifications. Based on the committee's recommendation, suitable candidates will be invited for interviews and trial lectures. The Faculty of Health and Social Sciences' hiring committee is the appointing authority.

Applications are sent electronically to the expert committee. Applications cannot be submitted by email to individuals at the university.

An application for admission to the PhD program should be submitted only after a potential hiring has been made. Normally, admission to the PhD program should be applied for within three (3) months after the start date, cf. HVL's PhD regulations §2-4.

We offer:

- Good pension, insurance, and loan schemes through the Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund
- Exciting academic environment with opportunities for skill development
- Possibility of training during working hours

The position is paid under code 1017 - PhD candidate, salary NOK 550 800 a year. Further increases occur based on service seniority.

A 2% contribution is deducted for the Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund. The appointed person must comply with applicable guidelines.

General Information:

Please note that, according to the Public Administration Act, applicant information may become public, even if the applicant has requested anonymity. Applicants will be notified if the request for confidentiality is not granted.

The government workforce should reflect the diversity of the population as far as possible. It is therefore a personnel policy goal to achieve a balanced age and gender composition and recruit individuals from minority backgrounds, with disabilities, or with career gaps.

HVL is subject to the export control regulations, which may apply in processing applications.

Additional information

Contact persons:

- John Roger Andersen, Professor
Phone: | E-mail: john.andersen@hvl.no
- Christian Moltu, Professor
Phone: | E-mail: christian.moltu@helse-forde.no

Place of service:

Svanehaugvegen 1 6803 Førde (Sunnfjord Municipality)