Job advertisement

Two doctoral or postdoctoral researchers

Submission deadline: **13th November 2026**

The Institut pour l'Avancée des Biosciences (IAB), Inserm, Grenoble and the Centre for Research on Social Inequality (CRIS), Sciences Po, Paris are seeking to appoint two doctoral or postdoctoral researchers to join the BREATHE project, funded by the Agence Nationale de la Recherche. Two posts are open, one at Sciences Po (supervised by Lidia Panico) and one at Inserm (supervised by Johanna Lepeule). According to the successful candidate's profile, a three-year doctoral or two-year postdoctoral contract can be offered. Start dates in early 2027 are preferred, with some flexibility.

The BREATHE project: In the context of climate change, rising temperatures, air pollution, and changes in urban vegetation and green spaces are creating new challenges for child health and development. Of particular concern is the impact on children and disadvantaged populations, who face both heightened exposure and increased vulnerability. BREATHE aims to investigate the impact of air pollution and other environmental risks, including heat and vegetation, on child cognitive development in France, and to better understand the role of these risks in producing socio-economic inequalities in child development. BREATHE makes use of survey and administrative data linked to fine-grained information on environmental and contextual risks. The BREATHE team relies on an interdisciplinary partnership involving Sciences Po, Inserm, Ined and PSE.

Key responsibilities: In close collaboration with the supervisors and the other members of the research team, the researchers will be responsible for advancing the core research streams of the BREATHE project. Key responsibilities of this role include:

- Preparing complex data for analyses
- Conducting advanced quantitative analyses
- Drafting, submitting, and revising academic articles for publication in leading international journals in collaboration with other members of the research team
- Presenting and disseminating findings at international conferences, workshops, lectures, stakeholder meetings, and in public media outlets
- Working with members of the research team
- Contributing to the coordination, reporting, and administration of the project
- Postdoctoral researchers will also participate to conceptualizing, designing, and completing empirical papers for publication in leading international journals, and mentoring junior colleagues when appropriate.

Key qualifications:

- Depending on the profile: a Masters' degree or equivalent in the social sciences or epidemiology/statistics; or a PhD or equivalent in the social sciences or epidemiology/ statistics (or evidence that the PhD will be completed within the 2026-27 academic year)

- Strong quantitative methods skills and relevant experience in data preparation & analysis
- Proficiency in using relevant coding languages, such as R, Python and/or Stata
- Fluency in English
- Strong intrinsic motivation to conduct world-leading, high-impact research
- Strong ability to work cooperatively as part of a larger research team
- Strong ability to assume responsibility and work independently with a research project
- Expertise and/or experience in the field of child development, educational inequalities and/or environmental inequalities (preferable, but not essential)
- For postdoctoral researchers, an emerging publication record in international journals (preferable, but not essential)

What we offer:

- Vibrant research environment at two leading research centers in France in their fields
- Opportunity to advance your research skills in an interdisciplinary setting
- Support for building your publication record in leading international journals through collaborative publications
- Opportunities for participation in international conferences and building your network in the research community

Depending on the profile of the candidate, the postholder will be based either at CRIS or Inserm. Work conditions, including salary payscales, will depend on the center the candidate is affiliated to.

The Centre for Research on Social Inequalities (CRIS), Sciences Po, Paris: CRIS is a renowned center for research on social and educational inequalities. It consists of a lively and vibrant community of international experts in the study of different facets of inequality such as education, life course, gender, family, health, cultural, digital, labor market, economic, and environmental inequality, social mobility, urban segregation, migration, and ethno-racial minorities. CRIS is committed to empirical research, drawing on diverse methods and promoting interdisciplinary approaches to generate policy-relevant insights in a world where inequality has become a major threat.

INSERM: Inserm is France's only public research organization exclusively dedicated to biological, medical and public health research. With 15,000 researchers, engineers and support staff working across the country, Inserm is committed to advancing knowledge, innovation and population health. Joining Inserm means becoming part of an institution that promotes excellence, diversity, equal opportunities and an inclusive work environment. Awarded the European *HR Excellence in Research* label, Inserm is also committed to continuous improvement in researcher recruitment, career development and working conditions.

Application materials & timeline: Please apply by 13th November 2026 by completing this online form and include in a **single PDF** file containing:

1. Cover letter (1 page) describing how you meet the key qualifications outlined above
2. Curriculum Vitae including a list of publications and work in progress
3. Writing sample (e.g., one of your publications or working papers)
4. Contact information for two academic referees

For questions, please contact Lidia Panico (lidia.panico@sciencespo.fr) and Johanna Lepeule (johanna.lepeule@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr). Applications sent via email will not be considered.