

EDI Statement

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Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences
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Assignment Acknowledgement

To maintain transparency and uphold academic integrity, I acknowledge that I used generative artificial intelligence tools, specifically ChatGPT, to assist with editing and reviewing my work for grammar and clarity. Grammarly was additionally used to fix spelling and punctuation errors.

EDI statement outline

- The role I will be applying for is the position of a Neuropsychologist Researcher within the neuroscience department at the University of Western Ontario
- The research area of focus would be the use of EEG in cognitive/clinical neuroscience.
- Western University takes the proper actions to incorporate EDI within the institution. Using websites that showcase and inform the public on intellectual diversity, Western commits to increasing community knowledge and exposing students and faculty to diverse forms of excellence.
- EDI in the Neuroscience department is particularly important because cognitive health and issues require intersectional thinking to answer research questions, treat patients and actively address the limitations of current technologies that historically did not consider diverse ranges of patients within the sector.
- Within this field, techniques like EEG have historically been accessible to individuals with finer or straighter hair types due to the nature of the apparatus. The reliance on the close electrode- scalp.
- These design limitations can create practical barriers for individuals with coarser, curlier or more textured hair, making participation in EEG studies, in some cases, not feasible. These barriers affect both the recruitment and retention of participants, especially in racialized communities and can lead to underrepresentation in neuroscience data sets.
- When it comes to my values with EDI – informed approaches to research, I am actively recognizing systemic barriers and hoping to contribute to research that prioritizes fairness in participation and research outcomes.
- In my research approach, I plan to critically engage with issues that deal with representation and bias in participant recruitment.
- Beyond research, I contribute to EDI through engagement in academic and community spaces to promote an inclusive research and learning environment through EDI-informed practices, mentorship, collaboration and ongoing education.