

# Ph.D. Student Research Assistant in Occupation and Rehabilitation Science

Department of Occupational Therapy, College of Health and Human Sciences

Colorado State University - Fort Collins, CO, USA

Supervisor: Dr. Caiti Peters

Anticipated start date: Fall 2026 (Application due Feb 1, 2026)

The successful candidate will serve as study coordinator for a **pilot study of equine-assisted learning for young adults with Down Syndrome**. Additionally, the student will have opportunities to contribute to other equine-assisted services research at Temple Grandin Equine Center, more information available:

<https://labs.agsci.colostate.edu/peters/>

## What We Offer:

- Full tuition coverage and research assistant stipend for 3 years
- Rigorous academic program in occupation and rehabilitation science
- Opportunities to contribute to ongoing research projects and interdisciplinary collaborations
- Mentorship in intervention science, clinical trials management, outcome measurement, and mixed-methods research
- Training within a land-grant, top-ranked Occupational Therapy program at a Carnegie R1 institution – currently ranked #3 in the United States

## Required Qualifications:

- Master's degree (or equivalent) in Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Rehabilitation Science, Public Health, Psychology, Kinesiology, Animal Sciences with a human-animal interaction focus, or related field
- Academic record with evidence of research potential (e.g., thesis, publications, presentations)
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English

## Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience providing equine-assisted services (adaptive/therapeutic riding, equine-assisted learning, occupational therapy integrating horses, etc.)
- Experience working with individuals with Down Syndrome or other developmental disabilities
- Experience with project management, especially clinical trials management
- Experience with quantitative and/or qualitative research methods including data analysis

## More Information

- Temple Grandin Equine Center Research: <https://labs.agsci.colostate.edu/peters/>
- Application Materials: <https://gradadmissions.colostate.edu/apply/>
- If interested contact Caiti Peters at [caiti.peters@colostate.edu](mailto:caiti.peters@colostate.edu)