

**Potential graduate students – please note that due to the number of applications we receive, I am unable to meet individuals or respond extensively to emails prior to recruitment interviews in the spring. To learn more about my research, and my lab, please visit my lab website at [BUILD Lab](#).**

**For answers to common questions, please see below.**

***Are you accepting graduate students this year?***

Yes, I will be considering applications this cycle for graduate student enrollment in **the fall of 2023**. Prospective students may apply through the clinical science or developmental science areas in the department of psychology.

***Which students are a good fit for your lab?***

Students who are interested in examining both biological and environmental risks for psychopathology, and/or protective factors that help children overcome a stressful upbringing are a particularly good fit. Individuals interested in infant, early childhood, and adolescent assessment and who wonder how risks for psychopathology pass from mothers to children would also be a good fit. Right now our studies are focused on the microbiome, genetics, mother child interactions, and prenatal/perinatal risks and exposures.

***Is it possible to discuss my interests with you before applying to see if I would be a good fit?***

If you are unsure whether your research interests are a fit, you may email me with this question. I may have to limit my response to a short yes or no. If I respond that your research interests are not a fit, this could save you time and effort in applying to Emory.

***What makes an applicant competitive?***

Competitive applicants to my lab have a passion for research, as well as hands on research experience. They have a strong GPA, and a desire to continue learning in the graduate school context. They have interpersonal qualities like self-motivation and intellectual curiosity.

***My career goals are primarily related to providing clinical services. Would I still be a good fit?***

No. I would recommend that you seek graduate training that is better aligned with this goal; clinical science PhD programs involve an integrative focus on research and clinical training and are not professional schools for training in clinical service provision.

***Please describe the role of students in your lab and your mentorship style.***

Our lab takes a team science approach to research. Students will be expected to contribute to ongoing projects, as well as to carve out a niche and test their own hypotheses in the context of these group endeavors. We expect students in our lab to be active in preparing results for publication and presenting results at research conferences. Collaborations with other students in the lab are encouraged as well. For students in the clinical science area, clinical training is provided through our in-house counseling center as well as a number of excellent practicum sites in the Atlanta area. You might also be interested in doing the part-time in house APA approved internship that our program offers. My mentorship style is developmentally attuned, with higher levels of oversight and mentoring in the earlier years, and gradual expectations of more

independent work as you gain statistical and writing skills. Please feel free to peruse our lab website—I think you will find it a helpful way to see if the BUILD lab is right for you.