

WSIPP Job Recruitment Research Associate II

Opened: February, 5 2019

Closes: March, 5 2019

Salary: \$6,446-\$8,405 per month of full-time work (DOQ)

Special Note

This position is overtime-exempt, "at-will" appointments, exempt from Washington State Civil Service rules and the Fair Labor Standards Act overtime requirements. These exempt positions serve at the discretion of the WSIPP Director.

Washington State Institute for Public Policy Profile

The Washington State Institute for Public Policy (WSIPP) is a nonpartisan public research group located in Olympia, the hub of Washington State government. WSIPP is a team of multidisciplinary researchers who conduct applied policy research for the state legislature in a creative and collaborative environment.

WSIPP is strongly committed to the core values of nonpartisanship, quality, and impartiality. Created in 1983, WSIPP has become nationally and internationally recognized for the design, depth, and quality of its research reports and benefit-cost analyses.

Position Purpose

Research Associates conduct research on public policy topics. The work primarily involves data analysis, meta-analysis, report writing, and presentations. In addition, Research Associates may assist in designing and implementing outcome evaluations. The positions involve close consultation with WSIPP colleagues and state legislative members and staff.

Nature and Scope

WSIPP conducts research at the direction of the state legislature or its Board of Directors. Current research topics include behavioral health, child welfare, criminal justice, early learning, health care, higher education, K-12 education, and public health.

Ideal candidates have a broad interest in evidence-based public policy, are self-starters, are comfortable with ambiguity, possess strong quantitative and communication skills, and have an eagerness to learn.

Essential Functions

- Conduct sophisticated quantitative research, to include meta-analysis, outcome evaluations, and analysis of large state and national datasets as needed.
- Assist with benefit-cost analysis.
- Consult with legislative staff, state agencies, local governments, national experts, and stakeholders.
- Write reports and present findings to the legislature and other audiences.

Additional Duties

- Complete other projects upon request.
- Assist in designing and conducting primary research on major public policy topics to inform state decision makers.
- Research Associates' work portfolios may vary depending on new legislative and Board-approved assignments.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- Apply exceptional interpersonal expertise to seek out and build positive working relationships with leadership, project team members, and internal and external stakeholders.
- Ability to work diplomatically, professionally, and in a nonpartisan manner on controversial issues.
- Ability to lead projects, including developing project plans and timelines, and coordinating the work of others.
- Ability to perform advanced statistical analysis, including experience using a statistical package such as SAS, STATA, R, or SPSS.
- Ability to critically review research literature and draw policy-relevant conclusions.
- Applied knowledge of rigorous scientific outcome evaluation methods.
- Ability to work collaboratively in groups as well as to independently and flexibly manage own workload to meet assigned deadlines.
- Take initiative and propose solutions to potential problems
- Ability to tolerate ambiguity and effectively handle tasks that are not clearly defined.
- Strong presentation, public speaking, and writing skills for both technical and lay audiences.
- Ability to work across multiple disciplines and with a variety of legislative and state agency partners.

Minimum Qualifications

- Master's (or equivalent) in relevant discipline.
- At least two years of experience and/or coursework in quantitative methods such as multiple regression or outcome evaluation design.

Desired Qualifications

- Recent work experience or graduate-level training in statistics, meta-analysis, econometrics, outcome evaluation, or benefit-cost analysis.
- Work experience or formal training in public health, health care policy, criminal justice, education, economics, public policy, social work, sociology, psychology, or a related social or behavioral science.
- Demonstrated experience leading research projects, to include developing detailed project plans and timelines, managing project resources, and holding self and team members accountable for assigned work and deliverables.
- Work experience in a government setting.

Work Environment

Research Associates work in an office environment with occasional meetings in a group setting. Flex scheduling is allowed, and a partial telecommuting schedule may be approved by the Director.

Conditions of Employment

Must provide proof of identity and employment eligibility within three days of beginning work.

To Apply

Please visit to <https://evergreen.peopleadmin.com/postings/2177> apply.