

## WSIPP Job Recruitment Senior Research Associate—Education

**Opened:** August 8, 2017

**Closes:** September 5, 2017

**Salary Range:** \$7,669-\$9,971 per-month of full time work (DOQ)

### Special Note

This is a full-time overtime-exempt, "at-will" appointment, exempt from Washington State Civil Service rules and the Fair Labor Standards Act overtime requirements.

### 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 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

The Senior Research Associate conducts quantitative research on public policy topics. The work includes outcome evaluations, literature reviews and meta-analysis, data and fiscal analysis, report writing, and presentations. This position will primarily work on projects related to K–12 education. The position involves consultation with state legislators and staff and other education stakeholders.

### Nature and Scope

WSIPP conducts research at the direction of the Washington State legislature. Research topics include criminal justice, education, child welfare, mental health, substance abuse, and health care.

The ideal candidate will have a broad interest in evidence-based K–12 education policy, strong quantitative and communication skills, and an eagerness to learn.

### Essential Functions

- Design, scope, and conduct primary research on various topics in education policy.
- Serve as a WSIPP expert on K–12 education policy.
- Provide advice and guidance to WSIPP staff.
- Collaborate with the legislature, state agencies, local governments, national experts, and stakeholders as necessary.
- Conduct literature reviews and meta-analyses.
- Conduct advanced statistical analyses using large datasets from various sources.
- Write reports and present findings to the legislature and other audiences.

### **Additional Duties**

- Complete other projects upon request. The Senior Research Associate's work portfolio may vary depending on new legislative assignments.

### **Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities**

- Ability to work diplomatically, professionally, and in a nonpartisan manner on controversial issues.
- Ability to work with administrative data, including completing data sharing agreements and state Institutional Review Board (IRB) applications.
- Ability to lead projects.
- Ability to allocate tasks to education team members and coordinate and monitor workflow.
- Ability to design and conduct rigorous outcome evaluations.
- Knowledge of and ability to perform advanced statistical analyses.
- Proficient in the use of statistical software (SAS, R, STATA, SPSS).
- Strong presentation, public speaking, and writing skills for both technical and lay audiences.

### **Minimum Qualifications**

- Master's (or equivalent) in education, public policy, economics or other relevant discipline.
- Four or more years of experience conducting research on education-related topics.
- Experience and/or coursework in advanced statistical methods such as multiple regression, regression discontinuity, or difference-in-difference models.
- Experience and/or coursework in program evaluation or research design.
- Experience analyzing complex survey and/or administrative datasets and summarizing results in writing and orally.

### **Desired Qualifications**

- PhD in education, public policy, economics or other relevant discipline.
- Recent work experience or graduate-level training in outcome evaluation, meta-analysis, cost-benefit analysis, or econometrics.
- Work experience in a government setting.
- Work experience leading research projects.
- Knowledge of one or more of the following areas education policy: finance, teacher quality, governance and accountability.

### **Work Environment**

The Senior Research Associate works 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 <https://evergreen.peopleadmin.com/postings/1582> to apply.