

SOCIAL SCIENTIST
ES-0101-06

Job Summary:

This position is in the Criminal Code Reform Commission (CCRC). The mission of this agency is to serve as a forum for identifying issues and their solutions, proposing actions, and organizing a coordinated approach to improving criminal law and procedures in the District of Columbia.

The CCRC is an independent agency in District government that aims to provide objective legal and policy analysis to the D.C. Council and Mayor concerning criminal offenses, procedures, and other possible criminal justice reforms. Working with key stakeholders, the CCRC provides the District government and the public with timely, relevant, and well-researched information and recommendations concerning the District's criminal laws and procedures. The CCRC also strives to provide analyses that are comprehensive in scope, account for current District law and practice, and integrate evidence-based research.

The Social Scientist has a deep understanding of at least one policy-relevant field of study, as well as thorough technical abilities related to experimental design and data analyses. The Social Scientist thinks creatively and strategically about how insights from the research literature can be transformed into legislative, policy and program designs that achieve District criminal justice reform goals and, critically, develops and executes projects to rigorously measure whether interventions work as predicted

Duties and Responsibilities:

The incumbent will be responsible for implementing evaluation projects, including coordination of agency and any university partnerships. Identifies and capitalizes on opportunities to harness social science approaches to provide insight into and achieve District criminal justice reform goals. Summarizes findings from the research literature and thinks creatively about how such findings can be applied in District legislative, policy and program settings. Designs, implements, and analyzes legislative, policy, and program evaluations, including analysis of local court and police data, quasi-experimental analyses, and other methodologies, as appropriate.

Presents results of agency work through oral, written, and visual methods. Proactively, provides ideas and critical feedback -- as well as being open to such constructive dialogue -- as part of constantly improving CCRC and its collective work output. Ensures that work product adheres to methodological and open science best practices. Writes descriptions and summaries of CCRC reform recommendations for diverse audiences, including scientific experts, government practitioners, and public stakeholders.

Required Education and Experience:

Bachelor's degree in behavioral or social science; or related disciplines appropriate to the position; or, Combination of education and experience that provide the applicant with knowledge of one or more of the behavioral or social sciences equivalent to a major in the field; or, four years of appropriate experience that demonstrated that the applicant has acquired knowledge of one or more of the behavioral or social sciences equivalent to a major in the field.

Incumbent must possess at least one (1) year of specialized experience equivalent to at least the next lower grade level in the normal line of progression for the occupation in the organization. Specialized experience is experience that equipped the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform successfully the duties of the position, and that is typically in or related to the work of the position to be filled.

Preferred Education and Experience:

- Master's or Ph.D. degree from an accredited college or university in criminology or a related field.
- Expertise with R statistical programming language.
- The ability to produce social science scholarship, as demonstrated by a publication record in peer-reviewed journals.
- Experience working within government or in partnership with government stakeholders.”

Working Conditions/Environment:

Work is typically performed in an office setting. However, attendance at designated meetings on days, evenings, and weekends may be required.

Other Significant Facts:

This position is an Excepted Service Appointment. Employees serving in Excepted Service positions serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

Domicile Requirement – Excepted Service appointees must either be a District resident at the time of their appointment or become a District resident within 180 days of their appointment date.

Salary Range: \$62,723 - \$94,084

This position is designated as Security Sensitive. The incumbents of this position will be subject to enhanced suitability screening pursuant to Chapter 4 of DC personnel regulations, Suitability.

Applicants for this vacancy should email a cover letter and resume with the subject line “Social Scientist application” to the CCRC at ccrc@dc.gov

Only individuals who meet minimum qualifications will be contacted.

*Note that work samples may be requested, and applicants might also be tested as part of the interview process.

The District of Columbia is an equal opportunity employer. In accordance with DC Human Rights Act of 1977, as amended, DC Official Code 2-1401.01.