

**University Title:** Scientific Director  
**Reporting to:** Executive Director, New York Office

## Who we are

The University of Chicago Crime Lab and Education Lab are faculty-driven research centers that try to improve social conditions in American cities by partnering closely with local, state and federal government agencies to carry out the highest-quality scientific studies. The labs carry out research projects in collaboration with a national network of leading experts in fields such as economics, public policy, sociology, behavioral science, and computer science. Examples of some of our past projects include: several randomized controlled trials (RCTs) of behavioral science interventions to reduce crime and dropout in Chicago (Heller, Shah, Guryan, Ludwig, Mullainathan and Pollack, 2017, Quarterly Journal of Economics), the results of which were cited by the Washington Post as one inspiration for President Obama's My Brother's Keeper initiative; a RCT of a large-scale summer jobs programs for disadvantaged youth in Chicago (Heller, 2015, Science), which has helped inform Mayor Rahm Emanuel's anti-violence initiatives; and a study that highlights the potential for improving the criminal justice system using machine learning methods, but also the new social science-type challenges that arise in exporting those tools to policy applications (Kleinberg, Lakkaraju, Leskovec, Ludwig and Mullainathan, 2018, Quarterly Journal of Economics), which has led to a partnership with New York City government to build a new citywide system to help judges make bail decisions.

In New York City, the Crime Lab our staff includes PhD-level research directors, data scientists, and program managers. We regularly seek out passionate, public service-minded individuals to join our team, and are committed to creating a collaborative, fast-paced and high energy office that is open and welcoming to individuals of all backgrounds and life experiences. Our work is funded by research grants from foundations and federal government agencies such as the National Institute of Justice, and private individuals, as well as ongoing core operating support from the University of Chicago. Previous Crime and Education lab projects have been featured in national news outlets such as the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, PBS News Hour, and National Public Radio. For more information about our work, go to [www.crimelabnewyork.org](http://www.crimelabnewyork.org).

The Crime and Education Lab is part of the University of Chicago's Urban Labs, a set of highly synergistic labs focused on undertaking inquiry and having impact on five areas of urban life: crime, education, health, poverty, and energy & environment (<https://urbanlabs.uchicago.edu>). We also are able to capitalize on the unique intellectual environment of the University of Chicago itself, which has been one of the world's leading research universities since its founding in 1890 by John D. Rockefeller with over 90 former students and faculty having been recipients of the Nobel Prize.

## The Role

The University of Chicago Crime Lab is seeking a full-time Scientific Director to help provide the scientific and intellectual leadership for the Crime Lab. In this role, the Scientific Director will be responsible for working with Crime Lab leadership in New York and Chicago to develop the organization's strategy, direction, and planning to help identify and select opportunities that will have the most impact. Reporting to the Executive Director, the individual will be expected to lead and mentor staff and develop an

organizational infrastructure to support anticipated growth and ensure that programmatic objectives are supported internally. The Scientific Director will direct a portfolio of applied research projects in association with faculty members and research teams focused on reducing crime and violence and improving life outcomes for disadvantaged youth. The individual also will contribute to the scientific content of research proposals and fundraising efforts, and support dissemination and policymaker outreach activities.

**Education and experience required:**

Applicants must have a Ph.D. in public/social policy, economics, criminology, statistics or other relevant field with substantial policy and research experience. The successful candidate will have expertise in all aspects of the research design, methods, and evaluation of research projects. Preference will be given to those with proven experience leading successful interdisciplinary collaborations. Experience in criminal justice or related area of social policy, and with a deep understanding of policy efforts to address urban problems, as well as a record of obtaining research grants, also is a plus.

**To Apply:** Please submit, a list of references, resume, cover letter, and writing sample, to the University of Chicago's Workday System. Search for requisition number **JR03067**. **Note:** When applying, all required documents **MUST** be uploaded under the **Resume/CV** section of the application. Please find instructions on how to access the application below.

- **If you have an active UChicago Workday employee account, you will need to complete the Internal Candidate application process. Internal Candidate instructions:** [Log into Workday](#) and select the career worklet.
- **External Candidates** should apply at <https://uchicago.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/External>.
- **If you have questions about the Workday application system**, please contact: [https://uchicago.service-now.com/sso?id=ssc\\_sc\\_cat\\_item&sys\\_id=cf359d671316660030c0bcaf3244b02d](https://uchicago.service-now.com/sso?id=ssc_sc_cat_item&sys_id=cf359d671316660030c0bcaf3244b02d).

*The University of Chicago is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity/Disabled/Veterans Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national or ethnic origin, age, status as an individual with a disability, protected veteran status, genetic information, or other protected classes under the law.*