

Job Title: Policy Analyst (Data Scientist)

Location: New York, New York

Terms of Assignment: Full-time

About Crime Lab New York:

Crime Lab New York (CLNY) is an independent, non-profit research center of the University of Chicago. We gather experts from around the nation, spanning disciplines, to develop data-driven approaches and generate rigorous, objective, scientific evidence about what works in reducing crime and addressing critical problems facing society. We partner with city agencies, civic organizations and others to use data to identify, develop and evaluate interventions that can be measured and replicated. Our work employs innovations in natural experimentation, randomized controlled trials, behavioral economics, and machine learning. We use these tools to help policymakers identify and target interventions, make the best use of public resources, and benefit New York's most disadvantaged citizens.

The University of Chicago's Crime Lab New York has a strong commitment to using science in the service of cities to improve the quality of urban life. We regularly seek out passionate, data-oriented, public service-minded individuals to join our team.

Crime Lab employees are committed to creating a collaborative, high energy office that is open and welcoming to individuals of all backgrounds and life experiences. We prioritize developing a workforce that is as diverse as the city in which we work.

For more information about the Crime Lab New York, go to www.crimelabnewyork.org.

Job Summary:

Crime Lab New York is seeking a data scientist to work on our portfolio of projects applying statistical inference, econometrics, and machine learning to pressing challenges in public policy and criminal justice. We're seeking a smart, motivated, and detail-oriented person who is qualified to work on all aspects of a project – ranging from raw data cleaning and basic descriptive analysis to developing predictive models and evaluating the effects of public policies. This position offers the opportunity to work directly with leading researchers and policy-makers on projects with immediate real-world impact. In addition, the data scientist will collaborate closely with PhD-level economists and computer scientists, as well as Crime Lab leadership.

Responsibilities:

- Contributes to the design and implementation of an efficient and reproducible data processing pipeline
- Builds and rigorously evaluates statistical models using best practices of machine learning and statistical inference
- Works with partners and members of the research team to propose and implement analytical approaches to solving specific research questions
- Cleans, transforms, merges, and matches between large and complex research and administrative datasets
- Performs sampling, power analysis, and randomization

- Prepares project memos, summaries, presentations, reports, and other work products for dissemination targeting both policymakers, academic researchers, and other stakeholders, as needed

Competencies:

- Advanced knowledge of machine learning, statistics, or econometrics. The ideal candidate will have expertise in either machine learning or econometrics, and will have exposure to—and excitement to learn about—the other
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Strong initiative and a resourceful approach to problem solving and learning
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team in a fast-paced environment
- Sound critical thinking skills
- Strong attention to detail with superb analytical and organization skills
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with the ability to present data in a simple and straightforward way for non-technical audiences

Education, Experience, and Certifications:

- Bachelor's or master's degree in computer science, statistics, data science, economics or a closely related field

Technical Knowledge or Skills:

- Proficiency with statistical data analysis using Python or R is required; ability to work in both is preferred

Required Documents:

- Resume
- Cover letter
- Unofficial transcripts
- A sample of data work, such as a final report for a class project, link to a GitHub repo, or blog post

To Apply: Please submit a resume, cover letter, unofficial transcripts, and a sample of data work to UChicago's Workday, requisition number **JR01653**. Please find instruction on how to access the application below.

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.

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 to the specific Lab at

<https://uchicago.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/External>

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