Job title: Research Analyst (Data Science)

Who We Are
By 2050, the global urban population will nearly double to 6.4 billion. This unprecedented growth in the global urban population creates incredible opportunities but also intensifies the most difficult problems cities face, such as concentrated poverty, crime, poor-quality schooling, and pollution. The University of Chicago founded Urban Labs to help address these challenges. Urban Labs is a set of highly synergistic labs focused on undertaking inquiry and having impact on five essential dimensions of urban life: crime, education, health, poverty, and energy & environment.

Urban Labs partners with cities to identify and rigorously evaluate the policies and programs with the greatest potential to improve human lives at scale. Urban Labs' evidence-based approach gives policymakers and practitioners the knowledge they need to effectively achieve the greatest social good per dollar spent. In sum, UChicago Urban Labs:

- Identifies promising solutions to urban challenges
- Tests the most promising urban policies and programs
- Scales-up the most effective and cost-efficient policies and programs

For more information about the UChicago Urban Labs, go to http://urbanlabs.uchicago.edu/

The Role
The University of Chicago Poverty Lab is seeking a Research Analyst with strong research, methodological, and programming skills to support social policy research projects. The Research Analyst will have the opportunity to apply tools and approaches from methodologies in both modern data science and traditional econometrics to original projects impacting homelessness, college access and completion, and workforce development. The Research Analyst will contribute to a growing practice of developing advanced analytical solutions to provide data-driven technical assistance to governmental and non-profit partners.

The successful candidate will have experience in applying a variety of statistical modeling and machine learning approaches to large datasets in real-world settings. From project inception to delivery, the Research Analyst will contribute to all facets of data collection processing, model development, and implementation. This position requires an individual who is able to work as a part of small research teams running multiple projects concurrently. The position offers the opportunity to work directly with leading social policy researchers at the University of Chicago and local city agency staff, as well as a team of Urban Labs research staff and student research assistants.

Duties and Responsibilities
- Working with partners to identify analytical approaches to solve specific research questions
- Construct, train and deploy scalable machine learning algorithms for a variety of research projects
- Preparing results of models for memos, spreadsheets, and presentations targeting both policymakers and academic researchers

- Build and interpret traditional econometric inferential models for experimental and non-experimental evaluations
- Designing custom solutions for entity resolution and record linkage
- Assisting in writing grant proposals, preparing IRB proposals, and obtaining other research permits
- Other duties as assigned

Education
- Bachelor's degree in economics, public policy, statistics or other relevant social/mathematical science field required.
- Coursework in statistics, econometrics, data science, bioinformatics or computer science required.
- Master's degree preferred.

Experience
- A minimum of two years of relevant experience required. Experience gained in school counts towards requirement.
- Experience working with large and complex datasets strongly preferred.
- Proficiency with one or more languages such as R, Python, or SAS required.
- Experience with relational databases a plus.
- Experience working on field experiments preferred.
- Experience applying machine learning algorithms in operational environments preferred.

Competencies
- Strong interest in social policy required.
- Prior experience or education in applying data science tools to real-world problems preferred.
- Strong background in applied statistics & modeling required.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills required.
- Ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously and meet tight deadlines required.
- Excellent organizational skills and attention to detail required.
- Ability to work both independently and as a team member required.
- Ability to work discretely with sensitive and confidential data required.

To Apply:
Submit resume, cover letter, writing sample, and transcripts to Workday, job requisition number **JR01219.**

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 position 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.