

Urban Labs Title: Research Analyst
Reporting to: Executive Director

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 Health 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 traditional econometrics and modern data science to original projects on mental illness and the criminal justice system, improving health outcomes and reducing costs, and homelessness. In addition to supporting field-based randomized controlled trials, the Research Analyst will contribute to a growing practice of 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 approaches to large datasets in real-world settings. From project inception to delivery, the Research Analyst will contribute to all facets of data collection & cleaning, 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 administrative staff, project managers, and student research assistants from the Chicago office.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Works with partners to identify analytical approaches to solve specific research questions.
- Cleans, merges, and matches data, and runs sampling and randomization across multiple projects.
- Builds traditional statistical models and machine learning algorithms for a variety of research projects.

- Prepares results of models for memos, spreadsheets, and presentations targeting both policymakers and academic researchers.
- Assists with literature reviews and drafting papers.
- Assists in writing grant proposals, preparing IRB proposals, and obtaining other research permits.
- Other duties as assigned.

Education

- Master's degree in economics, sociology, public policy or other relevant social/mathematical science field required. PhD preferred.
- Coursework in econometrics and/or mathematical statistics required.

Experience

- A minimum of two years of relevant data analysis experience required.
- Experience working with large and complex datasets strongly preferred.
- Proficiency with one or more languages such as R, Stata, Python, or SAS preferred.
- Experience with relational databases a plus.
- Experience working on field experiments preferred.
- Experience working with GIS and UNIX servers preferred.
- Familiarity with randomized controlled trials preferred.
- Experience with health and claims data highly appreciated.

Competencies

- Strong interest in social policy required.
- 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.

Apply

Submit resume, cover letter, writing sample, and unofficial transcripts to

<https://jobopportunities.uchicago.edu>, requisition **103090**.

The University of Chicago is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.