

Senior Research Associate or Program Manager

Duration: permanent

Work location: Arlington, VA (Rosslyn metro)

Job posting: until filled – application review begins January 9, 2023

Organization Overview: The Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness (CREC) is an independent, 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization based in Arlington, Virginia, founded to provide policymakers with the information needed to formulate and execute innovative, regional, job-creating economic development strategies. CREC provides research, technical assistance, and training to federal, state, and local policymakers as well as to national networks of professionals in related fields.

For the past 20 years, CREC has connected, trained, and supported thousands of professionals producing and utilizing data for decision making and has promoted innovations in the data available to guide economic development and talent development to foster regional competitiveness.

Over the next five years, CREC and the Labor Market Information Institute will partner to expand programming that strengthens the nation's labor market data infrastructure. We are addressing future demand for skills and improving data access for low-income communities served by community colleges, workforce training, and economic development organizations, ensuring that partner organizations can strategically address gaps that limit evidence-based policy and program development at the state and local level.

Position Summary: The Senior Research Associate/Program Manager will provide subject matter expertise, research, and technical assistance to build two programs: **Increasing Labor Market Data Use for Practitioners** and **Future of Work** programs. Their time will be dedicated to researching leading practices in industrial change, skill demand, and career pathways; data sharing to expand access to state LMI systems; technical assistance to intermediary organizations serving Black, Latinx, and low-income youth; and partnership development with data producers and users to advance products, methods, and training content.

Capabilities and Responsibilities CREC is searching for a Leader with a passion for improving systems and delivering results for communities with high poverty rates, communities in economic transition, and communities of color. The ideal Leader would be able to demonstrate expertise in one or more of the following capabilities:

- knowledge of labor market information producers, users, data quality and access issues with an understanding of how to protect and share confidential data;
- ability to forge partnerships between data users and data producers;
- ability to engage and motivate data system improvements at state

- and local development agencies and organizations;
- ability to conduct research on industrial and occupational change;
- experience using data to evaluate and improve training and job matching programs serving Black and Latinx communities.

This Leader would also have demonstrated ability or strong interest in connecting research professionals and program practitioners to advance discovery, learning, and programmatic objectives. Expected to design research, technical assistance, and learning activities to advance partnerships and to expand our existing network of state and local data providers and data users, including workforce intermediaries and local development organizations.

Regular travel is expected dependent on portfolio and clients.

Preferred qualifications:

- Strong work tenure with demonstrated capabilities and project management experience
- Expertise conducting quantitative and qualitative socioeconomic research
- Master's or other advanced degree preferred
- Permission to work in the U.S. is required

Benefits

Salary range is \$78,000 to \$103,000. CREC provides medical, dental, and vision insurance; a Health Savings Account, paid Federal Holidays, Paid Time Off Leave accrual, contributions to a company 401k Retirement Savings Plan, plus special leave for the end-of-year holiday season. Hybrid work-from-home commuting options may be available to successful candidates.

Application Requirements: Interested in joining us? Send a resume, cover letter, and work sample to aforbes@crec.net