

Post-doctoral Position: Higher Education Data Visualization

CCWT is seeking a postdoctoral researcher to prepare data visualizations for institutional partners, researchers, and the general public using data from the College Internship Study, and to independently conduct a related research project(s) beginning on approximately August 1, 2019 – October 1, 2019. This is a full time, two-year position located in Madison, WI.

Salary: \$52,250 annually, including health insurance and other benefits.

Project Description:

The Center for Research on College to Workforce Transitions (CCWT) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (UW-Madison) is seeking a postdoctoral scholar to work on preparing data visualizations for a longitudinal, mixed methods study on college internships. The postdoctoral scholar will work closely with faculty, professional research staff, and graduate students to prepare engaging and interactive data visualizations for institutional partners and the research community. The scholar will work approximately 80% on the College Internship Study and 20% on their own independent research project(s). We are especially interested in candidates with experience in mixed methods research projects, advanced quantitative and data visualization skills, a working knowledge of work-based learning and/or experiential education, and a strong interest in equity and social justice in higher education.

Responsibilities: The successful applicant will be an experienced quantitative analyst who understands both the data and how to develop engaging visualizations for research and public outreach purposes. The analyst will support the CCWT research team to acquire, process, and develop data visualization products to provide stakeholders with new insights into complex college and workforce transition issues.

Specific duties and project activities will include:

- Develop basic and advanced data visualizations from a range of data sources (primarily original survey data from the College Internship Study) to deliver analytic-driven insights for Center reports and papers;
- Use data visualization tools to rapidly generate impactful and interactive visualizations, making data more accessible, understandable and usable for institutional partners and the general public;
- Work closely with faculty, CCWT researchers and graduate students to provide support to CCWT projects by assisting with data visualization and analysis tasks;
- Work on an original project based on candidate's own research interests; and,
- Public technical reports, academic papers, and publications for general readership related to CCWT projects and their own work.

Requirements:

- PhD degree in economics, psychology, sociology, statistics, education, or other social science related fields;
- Working knowledge of one or more of the following topics: internships and other forms of experiential education, sociology of work and occupations, labor market structure and dynamics, social theory related to work and education, access and equity issues in higher

- education;
- 3+ years of experience with and/or knowledge in statistical methodologies and analytic techniques, including data collection, data cleaning and manipulation, and quantitative analysis;
- Familiarity and advanced skills in at least one data visualization technique, preferably Tableau;
- Ability to use statistical software programs, preferably R, SAS, Python or Stata, and online survey tools such as Qualtrics;
- Ability to tell compelling visual stories using data in order to provide insights to audience viewing research content;
- Be both detail oriented and self-motivated, capable of working independently on complex tasks; and,
- Strong organizational skills and ability to effectively juggle multiple responsibilities, and proven ability to adapt to a variety of situations and tasks.

Position summary

The mission of CCWT is to conduct and support research, critical policy analysis, and public dialogue on student experiences with the transition from college to the workforce in order to inform policies, programs, and practices that promote academic and career success for all learners. The Center is organized around four program strands: student experience with work-based learning, student experiences with career advising and decision-making, student and employer experiences with the job search process, and community views on the purpose of higher education.

The College Internship Study is a mixed-methods, longitudinal study in its 2nd year that investigates how design features of internship experiences are related to student outcomes including employment, wages, vocational self-concept, and job satisfaction. The project is a translational study in that a primary goal is to provide institutional partners (e.g., college and university leadership, career services professionals) with actionable evidence to inform their work. The study is also focused on identifying ways to improve the academic and career outcomes of first-generation, low-income, and under-represented communities.

How to apply: Applicants should provide a letter of interest addressed to Amy Rivera, CCWT Project Manager, curriculum vitae, and a sample publication sent to recruitment@wcer.wisc.edu