

Join the Office of Evaluation Sciences

Evaluation Specialist



The Office of Evaluation Sciences (OES) is seeking a program evaluation specialist to serve as part-time Associate Fellow on our Methods Team. This role will help to provide guidance and technical support to agencies across the federal government as they implement the recently enacted [Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018](#).

Based at the General Services Administration (GSA), OES is a team of applied researchers tasked with applying insights from the social and behavioral sciences to federal programs, and testing and learning what works. OES partners with federal agencies to evaluate the effectiveness of new evidence-based interventions on program outcomes and provides agencies evidence to make informed programmatic decisions.

In addition, OES is supporting the Office of Management & Budget and agencies across the federal government as they implement the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018 (the Evidence Act, for short). This law calls for agencies to give greater emphasis and resources to program evaluation, including by designating Evaluation Officers, creating annual evaluation plans, and conducting evaluations to inform decisions about policies and programs. OES aims to support the expanding community of federal evaluation specialists by developing and compiling technical guidance and facilitating and conducting workshops and other events for this community, among other activities. We are seeking an evaluation specialist to help coordinate and carry out these activities.

Position Details

OES is seeking a program evaluation specialist to join as an Associate Fellow on the OES Methods Team. The Associate Fellow will start in or around August 2019 for a period of one year with an aim to extend for additional years. The Associate Fellow will join OES on detail from a federal government office via a reimbursable Interagency Agreement or on loan from an academic or nonprofit organization on a reimbursable basis under the Intergovernmental Personnel Act.

We anticipate that the Associate Fellow will spend about 50% of full time (20 hours per week) in this position. It is preferred that the Associate Fellow work in our office in Washington, DC, though there is potential for the position to be remote with periodic travel to Washington, DC.

Specific responsibilities for this role include:

- Support the Federal evaluation community, including Evaluation Officers and evaluation staff in other agencies, by identifying and sharing guidance on specific evaluation methods or topics
- Coordinate and occasionally develop training materials for Evaluation Officers or evaluation staff on evaluation methods and best practices
- Coordinate and occasionally conduct periodic trainings or workshops for Evaluation Officers or evaluation staff on evaluation methods and best practices
- Help to identify topics or methods on which there is need for new guidance or training by reviewing evaluation reports and other evidence-building research from across the Federal government

- Support refresher trainings/workshops for Evaluation Officers newly designated under the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018

Applicant Profile

This Associate Fellow must have substantial expertise in the field of program evaluation, including both impact/outcome evaluation and process/implementation evaluation. The applicant should have expertise in experimental and quasi-experimental methods, in particular. Knowledge of the federal evaluation landscape is strongly preferred, though not required.

Additionally, applicants must possess:

- Experience designing/conducting/analyzing evaluations in field settings
- Ability to think creatively about evaluation questions and the most appropriate methods for addressing those questions
- Ability to effectively explain technical evaluation concepts to specialists from other social scientific disciplines and to broad audiences, orally and in writing
- Excellent project management and organizational skills
- Flexibility, self-motivation, and the ability to manage multiple tasks efficiently in a collaborative team environment
- Ability to identify the specific needs of diverse evaluation offices/staff and facilitate or develop technical guidance to address those needs
- Skill in teaching on technical topics for audiences of diverse backgrounds and varied levels of prior knowledge/expertise

Application Details

To apply, please send email to oes@gsa.gov with a cover letter and a CV/resume. Please provide name and contact information for at least one reference who can speak to your expertise in evaluation methods. The deadline to submit is **July 12, 2019 (9:00 pm Eastern)**.

Other Opportunities with the Office of Evaluation Sciences

If you have other expertise in the social and behavioral sciences and would like to contribute to designing, implementing, and evaluating interventions in a large-scale federal policy environment, please visit our [website](#), where you will find information about our annual recruitment for fellowships in Washington, DC.