Research Lead (or Economist)

The Economic Innovation Group (EIG) is a bipartisan public policy organization dedicated to forging a more dynamic and inclusive American economy. Headquartered in Washington, DC, EIG produces nationally-recognized research and works with policymakers to develop ideas that empower workers, entrepreneurs, and communities.

About the Role

EIG is seeking to add a Research Lead or Economist to the team to spearhead its work related to entrepreneurship, economic dynamism, wealth-building, and the macroeconomy. The Research Lead should have a strong resume in economics and public policy forged in academia, government, and/or the private sector. Candidates should be well-rounded with excellent writing skills to complement a strong quantitative foundation and strong instincts for communication and presentation. Candidates should have a diversified portfolio of work in and/or adjacent to issue areas directly relevant to the position, including entrepreneurship and small business; labor market dynamics; fiscal policy and taxation; retirement; and wealth and consumer finances.

The Research Lead will report to the Research Director, coordinate closely with the EIG executive team, and be responsible for managing one Research Analyst or Associate. The Research Lead will be largely responsible for leading projects of all sizes under EIG’s workstreams around economic dynamism, the Inclusive Wealth-Building Initiative, and more generalized timely economic commentary. The lead should be comfortable working both independently and collaboratively with colleagues. This research role is hands-on, and the lead should enjoy all elements of economic analysis, from ideation to writing and execution. The lead should be deeply immersed in the relevant academic literature and familiar with core datasets, and is expected to cultivate relationships across the industry and with media and policymakers. The position offers the right candidate a unique opportunity to grow intellectually and professionally on a small team whose insights are in-demand.

The position’s time will be broken out approximately:

60% Quantitative and qualitative economic and public policy research:
  ● Brainstorm new topics and products independently and in collaboration with leadership and colleagues.
  ● Outline, execute, and author large reports, data briefs, blogs, and commentary.
  ● Identify, process, and analyze large datasets.
  ● Read and review related research across relevant fields.
  ● Respond to real-time requests with rapid research and public policy analysis.

15% Project management:
● Create project plans, manage direct reports, and participate in relevant meetings across teams.
● Identify and cultivate external authors to contribute to EIG reports.

15% Outreach and network management:
● Expand EIG’s network by cultivating relationships with outside stakeholders across the think tanks, academia, government, foundations, and funders.
● Maintain a professional and carefully crafted expert presence on social media.

10% Economic data visualization:
● Utilize data visualization software to bring data to life in a clear, compelling, and innovative manner.

Qualifications

● Approximately 6-12 years prior work experience in research, academia, or government (less if candidate holds a Ph.D.).
● At least a master’s degree in relevant field (e.g. economics, finance); Doctorate preferred.
● Demonstrated professional excellence in related subject matter and methods of quantitative and qualitative analysis.
● Excellent writing and communication skills with a large and varied portfolio of published work and strong track record of producing interesting, novel analyses.
● Deep familiarity with relevant datasets from federal statistical agencies; history of identifying novel data sources.
● Proficiency in processing and maintaining large datasets required; advanced statistical software skills preferred; mapping skills preferred.
● Keen attention to detail and demonstrated ability to manage multiple competing priorities in a fast-paced work environment.
● Demonstrated knack for creating powerful and arresting data visualizations across a variety of different formats and platforms.
● Interest in and familiarity with the policymaking process; commitment to bipartisanship.
● Entrepreneurial spirit and desire to work in a fast-paced environment.
● Team player who is self-motivated, self-directed, organized, and deeply committed to personal and organizational excellence.

Apply

Compensation is competitive and commensurate with experience. EIG provides generous health care and retirement benefits and a generous paid time off and holiday schedule. Applicants should email their resume, cover letter, a relevant writing sample, and data visualization to careers@eig.org with the subject line “Research Lead”. Please note: This position is based in Washington, DC. In response to COVID-19, EIG staff are temporarily working in a hybrid
telework and in-office schedule. Once the office fully reopens, the person hired for this position will work in the EIG office in Washington, DC.

EIG is proud to be an equal opportunity workplace. We are committed to equal employment opportunity regardless of race, color, ancestry, religion, gender, gender identity, parental or pregnancy status, national origin, sexual orientation, age, citizenship, marital status, disability, or Veteran status.