The Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) is an independent research center at the University of Washington. Its mission is to deliver to the world timely, relevant, and scientifically valid evidence to improve health policy and practice. IHME carries out its mission through a range of projects within different research areas including: the Global Burden of Diseases, Injuries, and Risk Factors; Future Health Scenarios; Costs and Cost Effectiveness; Local Burden of Disease; Resource Tracking; and Impact Evaluations. Our vision is to provide policymakers, donors, and researchers with the highest-quality quantitative evidence base so all people live long lives in full health.

IHME is committed to providing the evidence base necessary to help solve the world’s most important health problems. This requires creativity and innovation, which is cultivated by an inclusive, diverse, and equitable environment that respects and appreciates differences, embraces collaboration, and invites the voices of all IHME team members.

IHME has an exciting opportunity for a Data Analyst to join our Resource Tracking US Health Spending research team

The Resource Tracing US Spending research team develops research intended to describe and assess healthcare spending in the US. Previous research from this team has been published in a wide-set of journals, presented around the globe, and online through an interactive visualization. The research produced by this team will be extended to focus on sub-nation geographic variation in order to gain knowledge about changes in healthcare spending and utilization, and spending disparities across the US. The research is policy-relevant, with the team at a unique moment of expansion in scope. The team’s Data Analyst will work closely with the faculty lead, researchers, a team of data analysts and data services specialists, and researchers on the Central Computation and the Clinical Informatics research teams. This position is contingent on project funding, which currently exists for two and half years more with hopes for extension.

The main purpose of the Data Analyst position is to provide support to key research projects through database management, data quality management, computational support to multi-disciplinary research projects, data extraction and formatting, and providing key inputs for papers and presentations. Data Analysts are tasked with developing an understanding of different research needs and analytic functions across multiple projects to best meet research needs. We are looking for an individual who is able to independently translate requests into actionable results through interactions with research databases, formulation of displays of results, and development of complex code to be applied to a variety of quantitative data. Data Analysts are expected to interact successfully with a wide range of internal and some external partners, and to describe complex concepts and materials concisely. Overall, Data Analysts are critical members of agile, dynamic research teams. The role calls for dexterity in working with complex databases and the ability to assess, transform, quality control results, and utilize quantitative data using R or Python coding languages to ensure that other team members have exactly what they need to incorporate the data and results into their own components of the analytic process, presentations, and papers.

Additionally, this position will work alongside other Data Analysts on complementary projects and will require knowledge and skill sharing and collective problem solving. Overall, the Data Analyst will be a critical member of an agile, dynamic research team. This position is contingent on project funding availability.

Responsibilities include:

Research command

- Become familiar with key research areas to understand the dimensions and uses of data and the analytic underpinnings of the US Disease Expenditure County-level Analysis project.
- Work directly with researchers to identify the source of data used in models and results, understand the context of the data, and ensure that they are relevant to the analyses themselves.
- Create and document efficient, effective, and replicable methods for extracting data, developing code, organizing data sources, managing data quality, and explaining complex analytic processes.
Data management and analytics

- Problem-solve computational and analytic challenges by investigating the data, understanding the root questions, and coming up with alternative measurement strategies.
- Implement code solutions in order to answer analytic questions, perform diagnostics on results, and test and assess new methods.
- Maintain, update, and adapt databases containing health data from multiple sources such as surveys, vital registration systems, administrative records, and published studies relevant to demographic estimation.
- Maintain, update, and carry out routine but complex computational processes and statistical modeling that are central to generating estimates of key indicators.
- Execute queries on databases and resolve intricate questions in order to respond to the needs of senior researchers and external requests from collaborators, media, policymakers, donors, and other stakeholders.
- Bring together data, analytic engines, and data visualizations in one seamless computational process.
- Use protocols to identify problems with datasets and routine computational processes, rectify issues, and systematize data for future analyses.
- Transform and format data sets for use in ongoing analyses. Catalogue and incorporate these datasets into databases. Perform quality checks.

General

- Create tables, figures, and charts for presentations and publications.
- Provide referencing and other support for publications and presentations.
- Communicate clearly and effectively while contributing as a member of both the Institute.
- Work closely with other team members to assist with relevant tasks, facilitate learning new skills, and to help resolve emerging problems on different projects.
- Participate in overall community of the Institute, carrying out duties as required as team members with other Institute members.

Requirements:

- Bachelor’s Degree in public health, epidemiology, statistics, biostatistics, math, economics, quantitative social sciences or related discipline plus two years’ related experience or equivalent combination of education and experience. As a rule, a Bachelor’s degree is equivalent to 4 years’ experience.

   Equivalent education/experience will substitute for all minimum qualifications except when there are legal requirements, such as a license/certification/registration.

Additional Requirements:

- Demonstrated success in implementing complex analytic code in R or Python.
- Demonstrated ability in using databases with large-scale, complex datasets.
- Adept diplomacy and exemplary interpersonal skills required. Must be agile at forming respectful and rewarding relationships with people with different levels of experience and expertise from a variety of cultural, linguistic, and professional settings.
- Strong organizational skills and the ability to successfully manage multiple tasks and priorities to meet established and changing deadlines.
- Proven interest in health financing or US healthcare spending, global health, population health, and/or ways in which quantitative research and data science can be used to create valuable global public goods.
- Demonstrated self-motivation, ability to absorb detailed information, flexibility, and ability to thrive in a fast-paced, energetic, highly creative and collaborative environment.
- Ability to learn new information quickly and to apply analytic skills to better understand complex information in a systematic way.
- Strong quantitative aptitude.

Condition of employment:

- Weekend and evening work sometimes required.
- This position is open to anyone authorized to work in the US. The UW is not able to sponsor visas for staff positions.
- Office is located in Seattle, Washington. This position is eligible to work fully remote in the US; work schedule required to overlap 50% of IHME office hours, between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. Pacific Time.

Committed to attracting and retaining a diverse staff, the University of Washington will honor your experiences, perspectives and unique identity. Together, our community strives to create and maintain working and learning environments that are inclusive, equitable and welcoming.

Apply to this job