



Research Analyst

The **Washington State Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC)** is recruiting to fill **Research Analyst** positions. With three levels of Research Analyst—entry, mid, and senior—we are recruiting for the mid to senior level. JLARC Research Analysts develop, lead, and conduct independent performance audits, program evaluations, sunset reviews, and other special studies of interest to legislators.

JLARC is a bi-partisan committee comprised of House and Senate members. The Committee provides legislative oversight to determine how effectively state agencies perform their responsibilities, whether programs are achieving intended purposes, and whether agencies are using state funds efficiently.

Role

JLARC's Research Analysts work on issues at the forefront of public policy. As a result of the variety of our audits, and how seriously they are considered, JLARC staff have broad exposure to policymakers and executives throughout state government. Analysts may carry out some assignments individually or serve on a team, and may also manage consultants for portions of their assigned work. Because this work is demanding, time bound, and important, analysts must have superior time and task management skills. They must understand the policymaking environment at the state level and work effectively and objectively with legislators, legislative and agency staff, as well as a broad range of policy stakeholders.

About Working at JLARC

JLARC offers a rare opportunity to work in a legislative environment that is high profile but also even-paced. Our studies typically last between six and eighteen months in duration. While these timelines are accompanied by very high expectations for depth and quality, they also allow us the flexibility to manage our project schedules to sustain a healthy home and family life.

Our staff work in a very open and collaborative setting within an environment that is rich in ideas, and is surrounded by intelligent, creative, and supportive colleagues. All staff share their work for discussion with their peers, and all staff are required to participate in a constructive critique of their work partners. This principle permeates our organization, and enables an atmosphere of analytical refinement that always improves our final audit products.

JLARC has a proven reputation for quality and independence. The National Legislative Program and Evaluation Society (NLPES), the professional association of legislative auditors, has honored JLARC with awards for each of the last thirteen years. JLARC was recently one of two states in the nation to receive the NLPES Award for Excellence in Research Methods.

To maintain the professional quality of our work, JLARC adheres to federal government auditing standards issued by the Government Accountability Office (GAO).

Desirable Qualifications

A bachelor's degree in public administration, economics, political or social sciences, or a related field applicable to analyzing government programs, is required. Candidates must also have established experience with analyzing or managing government programs. Preference will be given to applicants with performance audit,

legislative and/or program evaluation experience, or research skills. A graduate degree in an appropriate field is strongly preferred, but emphasis will be placed on relevant experience.

Successful Candidate Profile

JLARC is seeking candidates who are able to:

- 1) Produce both quantitative and qualitative analyses of superior quality, and excel at documenting their work, writing results and findings, and presenting their work to audiences ranging from team members to legislative members and staff.
- 2) Demonstrate skill with project management, research design, data collection, data analysis, and report writing.
- 3) Develop audit recommendations that improve performance, provide cost savings, and increase accountability.
- 4) Demonstrate the ability to use quantitative, financial, evaluation, and policy analysis methodologies and related software.

Compensation and Reporting Relationship

Research Analysts work under the direction of the Legislative Auditor and Audit Coordinator. This position is exempt from civil service law and is non-partisan. Annual compensation reflects the marketplace, depends on qualifications, and includes a comprehensive benefits package.

Application Procedure

Persons interested in the JLARC positions should submit the following information: 1) a letter of interest specifically addressing the qualifications mentioned in this announcement; 2) a current resume; and 3) a list of three professional references. Application packages should be sent via email or regular mail to:

Curt Rogers

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Application Deadline

Screening will start **May 24, 2010**, and continue until positions are filled.
Early application is encouraged.

The Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee is an equal opportunity employer. Women, racial and ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, disabled veterans, and Vietnam-era veterans are encouraged to apply. Persons with disabilities needing assistance in the application process should call (360) 786-5188 or TDD (800) 635-9993.