

Date Posted: 06/08/2011

**University of Houston
Graduate College of Social Work**

JOB OPPORTUNITY POSTING

Job Title: Director of Research and Evaluation

Employer/Agency: Laura and John Arnold Foundation

Job Description: The Laura and John Arnold Foundation is a private foundation located in the Galleria district of Houston, Texas. We have a lean and efficient staff and a high energy work environment. The Laura and John Arnold Foundation is currently focused on the three primary issue areas: Criminal Justice Reform, K-12 Education, and Public Accountability. Our core objective is to produce substantial, widespread and lasting national and community reforms that will maximize opportunities and minimize injustice in our society. To do this, we identify challenges and address root causes through innovative, multi-disciplinary solutions. We seek to incentivize and motivate bold new creative thinking and effort, thereby igniting a renaissance of new ideas and approaches applied to old problems.

Core Responsibilities:

- Perform practical social science research in a variety of policy areas including Education, Criminal Justice, and Public Accountability
- Supervise and assist third party evaluators who perform implementation studies and program evaluations for the Foundation
- Manage the selection and evaluation of third party evaluators
- Provide the leadership of the Foundation with research support and guidance as needed

Qualifications:

Essential skills, experience and abilities:

- Excellent quantitative and qualitative research skills
- Thorough understanding of statistical methods

- used in social science research
- Experience performing or extensive training in implementation studies and program evaluations
 - Ability to evaluate a variety of information and provide policy recommendations
 - Ability to grasp technical and theoretical concepts
 - Ability to work simultaneously on multiple projects and meet deadlines
 - Excellent written and oral communication skills
 - Creativity in finding answers to difficult questions
 - Ability to manage expert/academic contractors
 - Bachelor's degree or higher in economics, public policy, statistics or a related field

Desirable skills, experience and abilities:

- Advanced degree in economics, public policy, statistics or a related field
- Experience performing high quality, policy relevant social science research
- Creative, outside-the-box thinking

Desirable personal qualities:

- Self-motivated and proactive
- Flexible and adaptable
- Ability to work independently
- Thorough, good attention to detail
- Passionate about addressing challenges in society
- Enthusiastic

Salary/Hours: \$55,000 to \$80,000 depending on qualifications
Full-time

Employer/Agency: Laura and John Arnold Foundation
City, State, Zip: Houston, TX

Application Method: If interested in this position, please send a resume, cover letter, and contact information for three references to jobs@arnoldfoundation.org.

Opening Date: Immediately

If your response to this job posting results in successful employment, please email the GCSW Office of Alumni and Career Services at mswjobs@sw.uh.edu with the hiring details of your new job opportunity. Thank you