



## **ECONOMIST**

The Center for Regional Analysis (CRA) represents a progressive approach to developing a strong, sustainable economy in a regional marketplace where impact can be tangible and visible. Led by the Economic Development Company of Lancaster County, CRA responds to a growing trend in the economic development industry: the need and expectation for strong data and analysis as a fundamental to driving programming and guiding growth.

### **Position Description**

CRA's mission is to become the primary source of economic knowledge for regional PA economies. Using cutting edge data analytics, the Center will deliver economic insight that bolsters a region's business retention, expansion and attraction, while enhancing overall economic well-being and resilience.

The Center is in its start-up phase and seeking to build a team of analysts. This role requires an individual with strong quantitative and modeling skills and an intensely curious, entrepreneurial spirit. The ideal candidate is a team player that is motivated by the challenge of bringing data analytics to complex economic development initiatives.

Our research agenda blends mission-driven interests and fee for service work to address the economic development challenges of regional and local economies in South Central PA. Working as part of a team, you will help deliver credible, data-driven analysis that informs both private and public strategies addressing economic development. What you will be doing:

- undertaking forecasting and time series analyses tailored to the specific regional economic and/or sector conditions;
- identifying, monitoring, innovating, and implementing existing and emerging data analytics and modeling techniques to bring new or more robust insight into strategies and initiatives aimed at catalyzing economic growth and transformation;
- distilling research and analysis into clear and actionable narratives that inform business and local/regional government decisions;
- preparing publication-quality drafts of reports and analyses tailored to diverse technical and non-technical audiences, including industry experts, state and local government officials, community and business stakeholders;
- working with junior staff, including mentoring and cultivating technical capabilities; and
- engaging clients and EDC stakeholders on consulting and research projects.

This position reports directly to the Center's Director.

## **Basic Qualifications**

- Master's degree in economics, econometrics or statistics with 5+ years of applicable experience.
- Ability to balance quantitative rigor with the practical realities of inconsistent and incomplete business and economic data.
- Self-directed and able to manage a long-term research agenda while delivering on short-term projects involving internal and external stakeholders.
- Strong statistical programming skills are essential.
- Able to communicate complex and highly technical analyses in simple, easy to understand points.
- Strong team synergy skills and ability to work collaboratively with others whom you have no direct authority over.

## **Desirable Qualifications**

- In process of obtaining or recently completed PhD in quantitative discipline, such as economics, econometrics, finance, statistics, highly desired.
- 2+ years in demand planning, forecasting, business intelligence or related positions.
- Knowledge of economic development, a plus.
- Spatial programming (R and/or Python), a plus.
- Ability to think strategically and anticipate future trends.
- Ability to use insights from various sources to create compelling narratives that inform strategies for the organization.
- Comfortable in a start-up environment.

## **To Apply:**

The Center for Regional Analysis (CRA) is located in downtown Lancaster City, PA, which Forbes identified as one of "10 Coolest U.S. Cities" in 2018. CRA is part of the Economic Development Company of Lancaster County.

CRA offers a flexible work environment and competitive compensation and benefits.

The position is anticipated to begin no later than July 1, 2018. To apply, please email the following: cover letter, resume, transcript(s), and three references:

CRA@edclancaster.com

We will contact you directly if the recruiting committee is interested in your application.

*It is the policy of EDC to grant equal opportunity to all applicants and employees without regard of race, color, age (40 and over), sex, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation or any other legally protected characteristic. It is the intent and desire of EDC that equal opportunity be provided in employment, wages, promotion, benefits and all other privileges, terms and conditions of employment.*