CERP | Centre for Economic Research in Pakistan

Job Announcement

Position Title: **Research Associate**

Project: **National Outreach Program (NOP) Project**

Qualifications: **Master's degree in Economics, Statistics, Computer Science, Public Policy, Business Administration, or related fields**

Posting Date: **29 April 2019**

Start Date: **1 June 2019 (Flexible)**

Location: **19-A FCC, Syed Maratib Ali Road, Gulberg IV, Lahore**

The Centre for Economic Research in Pakistan seeks a qualified applicant for the position of Research Associate for the NOP Project. This is a full-time position based at the CERP office in Lahore. The Associate will contribute to research design, data collection, cleaning, and analysis and manage a field team. Further, this job will require collaboration with LUMS. The Associate will have the opportunity to engage with leading economists from Goethe University Frankfurt and LUMS.

About CERP
The Centre for Economic Research in Pakistan (CERP) is a non-profit research center in Pakistan that promotes the use of rigorous quantitative research and actively engages with policy counterparts to answer key questions in public policy. CERP was founded in 2008 by renowned Pakistani economists based at the Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School, University of Chicago, Pomona College and Lahore University of Management Sciences.

This is a demanding but exciting role, given the scope and possibilities for professional growth. CERP's project teams are small, and the amount of work we accomplish is significant. The position is challenging but rewarding – only apply if you are the type of person who takes charge and responsibility, can do good work with little supervision, and are not afraid to learn new things in order to get the job done. **Strong data analytic skills are required** in order to clean and analyze the data collected for sampling purposes, through the pilot, and through the eventual roll-out phase. A willingness to travel and the ability to take on challenges are essential.

Project Description
LUMS is Pakistan's leading university and as its mission is to create an environment where students from all over the country can expand their intellectual horizons, it runs a unique, large scholarship program called the National Outreach Program (NOP). This program was launched in 2001 with the motive to provide talented but low-income students a chance to study at LUMS on full financial aid. Since its establishment, the NOP has successfully supported more than 1100 students. We intend to evaluate this programme.

We aim to use surveys, cognitive and non-cognitive tests and lab-in-the-field games. We are in the process of securing administrative data from LUMS on all NOP applicants. After choosing our sample, we plan to survey applicants to find out their choice of university, post-graduation wages and

career choice, and political and social beliefs. We will visit students all across Pakistan with our field team and conduct surveys and experimental games.

The Principal Investigators of this project are Michael Kosfeld (Goethe University Frankfurt), Karrar Hussain (LUMS) and Zain Chaudhry (Heidelberg).

Job Description and Responsibilities

The Research Associate will work with the researchers and the field team in designing data collection tools, managing databases, cleaning and analyzing data for research and operational purposes. The Research Associate will be responsible for the following tasks:

- Develop data management protocols and manage project databases
- Assist development of data collection and entry tool
- Work with researchers to clean and merge databases, and prepare datasets for analysis
- Conduct initial descriptive data analysis
- Work with the researchers to conduct econometric analysis
- Relationship management with LUMS
- Field activities across the country together with the field team
- Do an initial write-up for LUMS leadership to understand the impact of the program
- Offer support for fundraising activities through proposal writing, relationship management and data analysis
- Other tasks as assigned by Principal Investigators

Qualifications and Skills

- Master's degree in Economics, Statistics, Computer Science, Public Policy, Business Administration, or related fields
- Minimum 2 years of experience in related field
- Good interpersonal skills
- Excellent skills in STATA
- Excellent communication skills (both oral and written)
- Excellent management and organizational skills
- Experience with development economics/data science research preferred
- Ability to work independently

How to Apply

Please follow the instructions below. Any applications or CVs submitted outside this process will not be considered. Only successful candidates will be contacted

Interested candidates should:
1. Fill out the online form found here, marking NOP as your first preference
2. Send an email to careers@cerp.org.pk with the subject **"Research Team- NOP"**. Please include your cover letter, CV, and transcript.