



SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY
Dallas, Texas

Career Opportunity

Data Scientist (Research Director)

Division: Dedman School of Law – Deason Criminal Justice Reform Center

Salary Range: Salary commensurate with experience and qualifications

Job Summary:

The Deason Criminal Justice Reform Center seeks a Data Scientist with a passion for criminal justice reform. The Deason Center is a research and policy center that uses a 'stats and stories' approach to create data-driven research and drive criminal justice reform.

The Research Director will support existing Center research and will design innovative new data studies. Working closely with local, state, and national, criminal justice stakeholders, the Research Director will acquire, analyze, and publish qualitative and quantitative criminal justice assessments that will inform criminal justice policy and practice.

Essential Functions:

- Design, implement, and support the Deason Center's research agenda. Identify critical areas of opportunity for innovative criminal justice research that align with the Deason Center's focus. Develop research models that make the Center's data analyses useful to criminal justice practitioners and available for further study and review.
- Collaborate with leading criminal justice researchers in government, non-profit agencies, and universities, to develop research partnerships; formulate and implement practicable research inquiries. Assist stakeholders in implementing and documenting data-relevant policy changes.
- Work with research partners and criminal justice stakeholders to develop new projects for data collection and analysis. Write reports, articles, and policy papers on research results.
- Draft strategic documents and grant applications for research projects and collaborations. Initiate funding opportunities and work with SMU grants and development department to acquire additional funding.
- Supervise staff (law, statistics, data science, sociology and related disciplines), working on the Center's research agenda.

Education and Experience:

PhD in criminology, computer science, public policy, statistics, or similar field is required.

A minimum of seven years of work experience is required. Significant experience in criminal justice research is also required.

Candidate must have experience in management of research teams, development and presentation of research results. Must also have experience in grant writing and reporting.



Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

Candidate must have a demonstrated ability to partner with academic, government, and criminal justice stakeholders to develop, write, and implement criminal justice research proposals and reports.

Candidate must be skilled in application and implementation of quantitative and qualitative techniques and methods, experimental and quasi-experimental study design; advanced statistical analysis; development and analysis of secondary data such as survey and administrative data.

Proficiency in preparing, designing, and integrating large and varied datasets.

Physical/Environmental Demands:

- Carry/lift 25 lbs.
- Sit for long periods of time

Position Open until Filled.

TO APPLY: Please click [here](https://smu.taleo.net/careersection/ex/jobdetail.ftl?job=DED00000063&tz=GMT-05%3A00) (<https://smu.taleo.net/careersection/ex/jobdetail.ftl?job=DED00000063&tz=GMT-05%3A00>) OR to view all job openings visit www.smu.jobs & select staff careers from the right-hand side menu to access the online application.

Job Requisition: DED00000063

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