Senior Advisor, State and Local Government

Based in New York City with up to 30% travel
Up to 2 roles
Package competitive

The Behavioral Insights Team

The Behavioral Insights Team (BIT) is looking for exceptional candidates to become Senior Advisors in our New York City office. We are looking for applicants to lead work on applying and evaluating behavioral insights to the challenges facing our state and local government partners. You will be based in Brooklyn, New York, and will manage relationships and projects with government partners across the country. You will report to the Head of the US office and will have management responsibilities.

BIT was created by the UK Prime Minister in 2010 with a remit to apply insights from the behavioral sciences to public policy in the UK. In February 2014 we became a social purpose company and have expanded considerably to meet the high levels of demand for our work. We now have offices in Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, and the US, as well as our two UK offices.

Role and Responsibilities

As a Senior Advisor, you will interact with senior city and state government officials, and other clients and stakeholders on a regular basis.

Senior Advisors each manage a multi-project portfolio of work in a specific business area (in this case, US state and local government). Whilst the subject matter and depth of the projects taking place will vary, each one will follow a similar lifecycle with Senior Advisors overseeing each of the following phases:

1. **Target**: leading your colleagues and partners in the process of turning large and complex policy issues into a specific program of work that will allow BIT to contribute to improved policy outcomes through the application of behavioral science;
2. **Explore**: leading quantitative and qualitative research efforts to understand the nature of the issues involved and to identify specific pain-points and opportunities to tackle the issue;
3. **Solution**: lead the team in generating evidence-based solutions that can be deployed in public service environments for the specific issues you identified;
4. **Trial:** Ensure a quality evaluation is designed and implemented to ensure we can find out what worked and what did not. This will typically involve using a randomized control trial (RCT). You will then wrap up by reporting back the findings to our partners as well as the project funder in a way that helps them quantify the impact on the original issue they asked us to help on.

While successful candidates may not be experts in all aspects of behavioral science and evaluation, you do need a strong understanding of the approaches used and the ability to manage others with specific expertise. It will be your responsibility to ensure that projects are managed and delivered to tight deadlines and budgets. To help you meet these goals you will line-manage a small team of Advisors or Associate Advisors.

In addition to delivery, you will also have the opportunity to lead on winning new work and business development once you have proven your ability to deliver on existing projects. Senior Advisor roles have high growth potential for those looking to advance.

Essential

First and foremost, we are looking for candidates with a proven track record of directing activity to deliver complex projects on time and on budget to a very high standard. This skill set is critical to success in this role.

In addition you should have:

- Experience working on the development or delivery of government policy;
- A strong understanding of the behavioral science literature and how it can be applied to help solve complex policy problems; and
- A proven ability to oversee the design and delivery of rigorous evaluations, including RCTs.

You will also need to demonstrate experience or understanding in the following areas:

- Directly managing a team (note: we may ask you for a reference from someone you have managed);
- Written and verbal communication (for example ability to write short, to-the-point policy papers for Mayors or senior officials);
- Strategic thinking, challenging existing assumptions and thinking of creative solutions to problems; and
- Responding to competitive tenders, preparing responding bids/proposals and securing new work packages.

Desirable

Finally, it would be desirable if you have:

- A Masters or PhD in a relevant subject area (including, but not limited to public administration, behavioral economics, psychology, design thinking, evaluation methods).

How to apply: candidates should upload their CV and complete their application through Applied: https://www.beapplied.com/apply/BhMQNRjlr3

Date of posting: 17th May 2017
Close of Applications: 31st May 2017 at noon
Interviews and assessment tasks will take place: mid-June 2017

To find out more about the organisation and the type of people who work in the team visit: http://www.behaviouralinsights.co.uk