

Applied Economics Clinic Job Announcement: Senior Researcher

The Applied Economics Clinic (AEC, www.aeclinic.org) has an open position for a qualified Senior Researcher who is interested in working with public interest clients (environmental and social advocacy groups and agencies) on research related to the intersection of economics, energy, environment, and equity. AEC offers a collaborative work environment that seeks to train the next generation of technical expert witnesses and analysts while providing accessible, low-cost services to its clients and promoting diversity in our field. We strongly encourage members of underrepresented groups in energy and environmental fields to apply, even if your background differs from our preferred qualifications!

Senior Researcher job description

AEC is a mission-based non-profit consulting group providing services (e.g., analysis, modeling, testimony, public reports, etc.) in the areas of energy, climate, environment, and social equity. AEC also offers services on a pro bono basis to environmental justice-focused community-based organizations. Our clients are primarily public interest groups—non-profits, government agencies, and green business associations. As an AEC Senior Researcher, you will be responsible for project management, conducting research, and providing analysis for our clients. The Senior Researcher role at AEC is equivalent to a principal or Partner at a for-profit consulting firm. We are interested in candidates at this level who are able to initiate new projects, new contracts, and new connections for AEC. As workers in a small non-profit, AEC staff are also responsible for assisting with administrative duties as needed, providing every staff member at AEC hands on experience in how to run a non-profit and/or a consulting firm, and providing training and mentoring opportunities to more junior staff.

Tasks and responsibilities for a Senior Researcher include:

- Manage several concurrent projects, which includes client communications, project planning and budgeting, delegation of tasks, and meeting deadlines
- Write reports, policy briefs, and other deliverables as needed for projects
- Organize and analyze data using Excel
- Bring in new clients and projects to AEC, including utilization of professional networks and identifying and responding to requests for proposals (RFPs) related to AEC's areas of expertise
- Assist with internal organizational needs including invoicing, website upkeep, and other critical administrative tasks shared by all employees
- Attend meetings and conferences with AEC staff, clients, and other experts
- Lead trainings to advance skill and knowledge for AEC staff members

AEC is looking for a candidate with an advanced degree in a related field (e.g., economics, engineering, public policy, science) and experience or interest in the areas of energy, environment, or social equity. Please note that we do not necessarily eliminate applicants who do not meet all our preferred and desired qualifications listed below: **The ideal candidate has (1) enthusiasm about AEC's work and mission and is ready to learn, (2) a substantial amount of closely related work experience, (3) interest in mentoring junior staff, and (4) a close network of public interest groups that the candidate has worked with in the past and expects to continue working with in the future.** We are specifically looking for candidates that see value in a good work-life balance

and are passionate about serving the needs of our public interest clients. This is a full-time position—only applicants who can work full-time will be considered. AEC offers a flexible workplace that allows staff members to choose between working fully remote or in-person at our office in Arlington, MA (or a combination of the two).

Applications will be considered on a rolling basis until the position is filled.

Preferred qualifications:

- Master's degree in a related field (e.g., economics, engineering, public policy, science)
- A minimum of 8 years of relevant experience
- Experience with project management
- Strong quantitative skills
- Excellent technical and popular audience writing skills
- Fluency in Microsoft Office applications, especially Excel
- Ability to work on multiple projects simultaneously and manage time well
- Ability to work collaboratively, sharing tasks, knowledge, and workspace with colleagues
- Willingness to learn and use feedback to improve

Desired (but not required) qualifications:

- PhD in a related field (e.g., economics, engineering, public policy, science)
- Experience working on climate, energy, environment, consumer issues or equity issues, particularly in a research, consulting, and/or community organizing capacity
- Experience in statistics, modeling, and/or other forms of quantitative analysis; energy modeling (e.g., EnCompass) experience is especially useful
- Experience in mapping software, including ArcGIS

Salary and benefits at AEC:

- 35-hour work week, with the option to work remote full-time
- 8 weeks' time off (includes sick-time and holidays)
- Generous paid family and medical leave
- Short- and long-term disability insurance
- Life insurance
- HRA health benefits
- IRA retirement benefits
- Emphasis on teamwork and mentorship
- All staff members' viewpoints considered in decision-making; staff representation on Board of Directors
- Depending on the applicant's specific qualifications, minimum starting salary of \$100,000-\$140,000 with an expected increase in 9 months—pending performance reviews—to \$120,000-\$165,000

To apply, please send the following materials to jobs@aeclinic.org:

- A cover letter; including where you saw this job ad and why you want to work at AEC
- CV or resume
- Two writing samples that shows your ability to translate technical matter into writing for a general audience
- An Excel spreadsheet sample that shows your skills in organizing data using formulas and creating data visualizations such as tables and/or figures
- A list of short descriptions of projects that you have managed or clients that you have worked with
- Three references (including names, contact information, and relationship to you) who can speak to how well you fit these qualifications

FAQ

What is the Applied Economics Clinic?

Based in Arlington, Massachusetts, the Applied Economics Clinic (AEC, www.aeclinic.org) is a mission-based non-profit consulting group that offers expert services in the areas of energy, environment, consumer protection, and equity from seasoned professionals while providing on-the-job training to the next generation of technical experts.

AEC's non-profit status allows us to provide lower-cost services than most consultancies and when we receive foundation grants, AEC also offers services on a pro bono basis. AEC's clients are primarily public interest organizations—non-profits, government agencies, and green business associations—who work on issues related to AEC's areas of expertise. Our work products include expert testimony, analysis, modeling, policy briefs, and reports, on topics including energy and emissions forecasting, economic assessment of proposed infrastructure plans, and research on cutting-edge, flexible energy system resources.

AEC works proactively to support and promote diversity in our areas of work by providing applied, on-the-job learning experiences to graduate students—and occasionally highly qualified undergraduates—in related fields such as economics, environmental engineering, and political science. Over the past four years, AEC has hosted research assistants from Boston University, Brandeis University, Clark University, Tufts University, and the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. AEC is committed to a just workplace that is diverse, pays a living wage, and is responsive to the needs of its full- and part-time staff.

Founded by Clinic Director and Senior Economist Elizabeth A. Stanton, PhD in 2017, AEC's talented researchers and analysts provide a unique service-minded consulting experience. Dr. Stanton has had two decades of professional experience as a political and environmental economist leading numerous studies on environmental regulation, alternatives to fossil fuel infrastructure, and local and upstream emissions analysis. AEC professional staff includes experts in electric, multi-sector and economic systems modeling, climate and emissions analysis, green technologies, and translating technical information for a general audience. AEC's staff are committed to addressing climate change and environmental injustice in all its forms through diligent, transparent, and comprehensible research and analysis.



What is AEC's mission?

1. Provide low cost and (when we receive foundation grants) pro bono expert services to public interest groups on the topics of energy, environment, consumer protection, and equity.
2. Train the next generation of expert technical witnesses and analysts by providing applied, on-the-job learning experiences to graduate students in related fields.
3. Work proactively to support and promote diversity in the fields of economics, engineering, math and sciences.

What are AEC's remote and in-person work options?

AEC offers a flexible workplace that allows staff members to choose between working fully remote or in-person at our office in Arlington, MA (or a combination of the two). AEC values the collaboration that comes from working together, and strive to create opportunities for that to happen both in person and remotely. AEC is COVID-cautious—our office is open to vaccinated team members, and we'll continue to pay close attention to case rates to ensure everybody's safety.

What if my background differs from your preferred qualifications?

We strongly encourage members of underrepresented groups in energy and environmental fields to apply, even if your background differs from our preferred qualifications! AEC seeks to hire team members with a broad range of prior experience, and we'd love to talk with you if you think you're a good fit. We prioritize mentorship on the job.

What's the interview process like?

Every candidate starts out with one or two conversations where AEC staff gets to know you and hear about your experience and your interests. Next steps include an Excel and writing exercise and a conversation with AEC's Director. Final candidates for Senior Researcher will be asked to give a presentation to AEC staff. We prioritize transparency in our hiring process.