

Job Announcement

Research Scientist

November 2021

Overview

Berkeley Air Monitoring Group is seeking a Research Scientist to join our small, dynamic company. The ideal person for this position is a recent M.S. or Ph.D. graduate who has a strong interest in the impacts of household energy transitions in regions where people are reliant on biomass and other polluting fuels -- health, climate change, and gender and economic outcomes -- and is looking to gain in-depth experience in research, monitoring, evaluation, instrumentation, and data analysis. The position would ideally be based in our office in Fort Collins, Colorado, but the location is flexible, including the option to be based at our Berkeley, California, office.

About Berkeley Air and Our Mission

Berkeley Air Monitoring Group, Inc. (www.berkeleyair.com) is a small technical consulting firm located in Berkeley, California, and Fort Collins, Colorado, founded in 2008, and incubated at the University of California, Berkeley. We work to mitigate the many problems associated with the use of dirty solid fuels for cooking, heating, and lighting, where electricity and gas are unavailable or unaffordable. Millions of people die prematurely each year as a result of exposure to air pollution, one of the world's largest environmental health risks. With nearly 40% of households worldwide still using solid fuels for their cooking, the health impacts of this air pollution are especially problematic in lower- and middle-income countries. Similarly, household economics and gender dynamics are affected by the lack of affordable access to clean cooking options. Lastly, the unsustainable harvesting and inefficient burning of biomass fuels contributes substantially to climate change.

Our vision is the widespread adoption of cleaner and more efficient household energy solutions for global health, gender, and climate benefits. To this end, our company provides scientifically based testing, monitoring, and evaluation of household energy technologies and fuels for a range of domestic and international clients in both the public and private sectors. We also sell monitoring instrumentation, including sensors for air pollution and stove use.

Key Responsibilities and Tasks

Study Design and Planning

- Assessing client needs and developing appropriate evaluation approaches

- Designing responsive data collection tools

Data Management and Analysis

- Carrying out QA/QC checks on data sets as they arrive from the field. Identifying and troubleshooting any issues.
- Coding scripts for collecting, cleaning, and processing field data (Excel, R, ODK Central, ODK Collect, Mobenzi, etc.)
- Compiling and organizing data sets for analysis
- Conducting analysis of data sets including summary tables, regression modeling, power calculations, and tests of statistical significance

Project Management

- Managing all aspects of company projects, from study design & planning through reporting
- Creating and overseeing budgets, timelines, and deliverables
- Managing all client communications

Fieldwork

- Coordinating with domestic and international field teams and arranging associated logistics
- Training field staff on implementing data collection protocols, including use of equipment and survey forms
- Operating and maintaining field instrumentation
- Preparing data collection tools for use in mobile platforms such as ODK

Technical Communications

- Report, manuscript, and proposal writing
- Presentation of results at conferences and meetings

Essential Professional Skills and Experience

- Proficient with R statistical software
- Strong background knowledge in household energy, including work on air quality, climate emissions, and/or other impacts
- Experience working in lower- and middle-income countries
- Quantitative data analysis skills
- Experience working with scientific instrumentation and environmental sensors
- Ability to work well independently and in groups, both remotely and, when possible, in a small office
- M.S. or Ph.D. in a related field

Desired Professional Skills and Experience

One or more of the following skills/experiences, although not essential, are desirable:

- Measurement of pollutant source emissions, personal exposure, and/or ambient/area air quality
- Qualitative data analysis
- Biostatistics
- Proficiency in non-English language(s) very helpful (particularly Spanish)
- Budgeting and developing timelines
- Ability/interest in training and mentoring others

Hours, compensation, and start date

This is a full-time position ranging from 30-40 hours per week, with flexible hours and working location. It is expected to be a 1-year position, with the possibility of extension. The expected salary range is \$55,000 to \$75,000, commensurate with experience. Benefits include TriNet-managed medical/vision/dental insurance, paid holidays and vacation, and sick leave and a company-sponsored retirement plan. Our Berkeley and Fort Collins office environments are casual and collaborative.

We would like to fill this position as soon as possible.

How to Apply

Please email a cover letter and your CV/resume to jobs@berkeleyair.com with “Research Scientist position” in the subject field.

* Note – we regret that since we are a very small company, we are not able to sponsor candidates who do not have US work authorization.

(No phone calls, please)