

**CHIEF SCIENTIST**

**U.S. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE  
  
Washington, DC**

Client

The United States Government Accountability Office (GAO) is an independent, nonpartisan agency that works for Congress for the benefit of the American people. GAO, commonly called the “Congressional Watchdog”, is at the epicenter of government decision-making. The agency investigates how the federal government spends taxpayer dollars; and advises Congress and the heads of executive agencies on ways to make government more efficient, effective, ethical, equitable and responsive. GAO’s work leads to laws and acts that improve government operations, saving the government and taxpayers billions of dollars. For more information, please visit [www.gao.gov](http://www.gao.gov).

**Position Summary**

The Chief Scientist is an advisor and chief consultant to the GAO and Congress and regularly interacts with other federal agencies and government programs on cutting-edge science and technology (S&T), highly specialized complex systems, engineering policies and best practices, and original research studies in the fields of engineering, computer, and the physical and biological sciences.  
  
**Responsibilities**

* Serves as GAO's principal spokesperson on scientific, technology, and engineering issues to represent GAO in contacts with members and committees of Congress and their staffs; representatives of other federal departments and agencies; officials of foreign government; state and local authorities; and private industry.
* Develops, cultivates, and maintains ongoing relationships with the science and technology community, including but not limited to academia, government, and private sector experts.
* Designs, supervises, and directs scientific studies in collaboration with GAO's subject matter teams to support Congressional and federal agency decision making on scientific issues.
* Provides policy and program direction for GAO's science priorities to facilitate the integration and coordination of research efforts across GAO, with other federal agencies, and with the external scientific community.
* Leads the development GAO's science strategy and policy to ensure that GAO's policy is aligned with science goals and objectives of Congress.
* Identifies and analyzes emerging science and technology issues to address and develop solutions to issues that may impact the federal government.
* Advises and may lead original research studies of emerging science and technology work to improve the performance of federal programs and public policy.
* Advises the Comptroller General, GAO senior executives, and mission teams on determining the appropriate methodological approaches, techniques, formulas, methods, and procedures to solve complex scientific issues GAO encounters.
* Participates in setting, revising, and introducing standards for GAO's scientific work to ensure the quality of GAO's audits and evaluations.

**Executive Core Qualifications (ECQs)**

Candidates must demonstrate, **within your resume**, evidence of progressively responsible leadership experience that is related to the skills and abilities outlined in the 5 ECQs and 3 Technical Qualifications (TQs) described below.

1. **Leading Change**: This core qualification involves the ability to bring about strategic change, both within and outside the organization, to meet organizational goals. Inherent to this ECQ is the ability to establish an organizational vision and to implement it in a continuously changing environment.
2. **Leading People**: This core qualification involves the ability to lead people toward meeting the organizations vision, mission, and goals. Inherent to this ECQ is the ability to provide an inclusive workplace that fosters the development of others, facilitates cooperation and teamwork, and supports constructive resolution of conflicts.
3. **Results Driven**: This core qualification involves the ability to meet organizational goals and customer expectations. Inherent to this ECQ is the ability to make decisions that produce high quality results by applying technical knowledge, analyzing problems, and calculating risks.
4. **Business Acumen**: This core qualification involves the ability to manage human, financial, and information resources strategically.
5. **Building Coalitions**: This core qualification involves the ability to build coalitions internally and with other federal agencies, state and local governments, nonprofit and private sector organizations, foreign governments, or international organizations to achieve common goals.

**Technical Qualifications (TQs)**

* + Experience designing, directing, and overseeing studies to evaluate novel or emerging science or technology issues.
  + Experience serving as an organization's spokesperson to lead interactions and present complex policy issues and analyses on science or technology issues to non-technical audiences.
  + Experience reviewing science or technology-related forecasts, analyses, modeling, or methodologies to recommend improvements.

**Education:**

You must have one of the following:

* A degree in physical science, engineering, or mathematics that included 24 semester hours in physical science and/or related engineering science such as mechanics, dynamics, properties of materials, and electronics;
* Education equivalent to a major in physical science, engineering, or mathematics that included at least 24 semester hours in physical science and/or related engineering science, plus appropriate experience or additional education;
* A degree in biological sciences, agriculture, natural resource management, chemistry, or related disciplines appropriate to the position; or
* Courses equivalent to a major in biological sciences, agriculture, natural resource management, chemistry, or related disciplines, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

**Desired:** Ph.D. highly preferred.

**How to apply:**You must complete the online application and submit the documentation specified in the Required Documents section of the announcement.

1. Click this link: <https://www.usajobs.gov/job/707290300>.

2. Click "Apply" to create a USAJOBS account or log into your existing account. Follow the prompts to begin the application process.

3. You will be redirected to the USA Staffing website to complete the application process.

4. Click "Submit" to transmit your complete application package to GAO.

**Within the USAJOBS announcement, please carefully review the “Required Documents” section and follow all instructions under "How to Apply" to ensure you submit a complete application.** This includes a resume which shows evidence of progressively responsible leadership experience that is related to the 5 ECQs and 3 TQs and completion of the online assessment questionnaire.

**Location**: Washington, DC

**Other**: U.S. Citizenship required. Selected candidate will be required to obtain and maintain a security clearance. Financial disclosure is required. Completion of a probationary period is required.

**Compensation**: Up to $212,100; position may be eligible for a recruitment incentive.

**Deadline:** To be considered, you must submit your application **via USAJOBS by 11:59 PM (ET), March 23, 2023**.

**Contact**: For more information about the role or the application process, please contact:

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*JDG Associates, established in 1973, is a leading provider of executive recruiting services to federal/state/local government, non-profit organizations, trade associations, Fortune 1000 corporations, and a broad array of government contractors.*