



Job Description: Research Associate

Accountability Initiative, Centre for Policy Research is seeking to hire a Research Associate for its Public Finance team. The position is based in New Delhi, and will involve research on budgets, fund flows, and the relationship between financing and implementation service delivery for social sector programmes such as education, health, sanitation, and nutrition.

About Accountability Initiative

Accountability Initiative (AI) was set up in 2008 at the Centre for Policy Research (CPR) with a mission to deepen research, analysis, and reforms for strengthening accountability for public service delivery in India. We do this by:

Building Evidence:

- Tracking and analysing implementation processes (planning, budgeting, decision making) of social sector programmes including education, health, sanitation and nutrition.
- Evaluating accountability experiments

Deepening Public Debate:

- Widely disseminating evidence collected to promote an evidence based debate on accountability failures and solutions

Catalysing Accountability Interventions:

- Building citizen capacity to participate and monitor government processes
- Partnering with government to pilot reform models

About this position

The position involves working in the Public Finance team on various projects. It will entail a combination of desk-based secondary research at AI's office in New Delhi, as well as, occasional travel to the states in which projects may be running. The work will require collaboration with other team members as well as external partners such as various government officials, multilateral agencies etc.

Specific responsibilities include:

1. Research assistance in public finance, such as:
 - Collecting, cleaning and analysing data from state budget documents
 - Assist in the development of databases for key social sector schemes
 - Providing support to ongoing surveys in sectors such as sanitation, housing and nutrition.
 - Assisting in preparing a repository of data on centre-state finances

2. Provide research and field support to the broader AI team
3. Disseminating AI's work, by
 - Drafting documents and presentations summarising research and findings
 - Interacting with the wider public policy community at conferences, seminars and so on.

The position will require a large amount of quantitative research. Hence, candidates are expected to demonstrate strong quantitative and data analysis skills.

Competencies

Area	Mandatory	Desirable
Education and work	Master's degree in Public Policy, Development Studies, Economics, Political Science or any other social science discipline	Work experience with relevant organisations
Data analysis	Strong data analysis skills, fluency with Excel	Other tools such as R, Stata, Python and other coding skills
Public policy	Basic knowledge of Indian polity including federal system and major social sector schemes	Domain knowledge in the social sector and policy space
Other skills	Written and oral communication skills; presentation skills	Prior experience in qualitative research methods is desirable. Other desirable skills include time and project management. skills
Languages	Fluency in English and Hindi	Working knowledge of other Indian languages

How to apply

- Interested candidates should apply to info@accountabilityindia.org with the Subject: "Application for the post of Research Associate "
- Application should include
 - i. A cover letter describing your background, work/internship experience and interest and suitability for the position
 - ii. A CV, which specifically lists your relevant coursework and skills
 - iii. 2 writing samples (one short 4-5 pages and one longer)
 - iv. 2 references (preferably one professional and one academic)

Last date of application: **1 October 2017. Application date extended to 10 October 2017.**

Note: Each document should be included as a separate attachment to the email with your name clearly mentioned in the file name as well as the content of the file.

Incomplete applications will not be accepted and only selected candidates will be informed.