

Istituto per la Ricerca Valutativa sulle Politiche Pubbliche

Call: IRVAPP_R_2011

Opening date: 6 June 2011Closing date: 6 July 2011

The Research Institute for the Evaluation of Public Policies (IRVAPP) is looking for two researchers.

IRVAPP is a policy-relevant research organization established in April 2008 by the Fondazione Bruno Kessler and based in Trento (Italy). The scientific mission of the Institute includes the evaluation of public policies as well as the dissemination of findings from this research, the promotion of a culture of impact evaluation and the training of policy evaluators. The methodological paradigm underlying IRVAPP's empirical work is the counterfactual analysis of causality. IRVAPP's research activity focuses mainly on labour policies, education policies, industrial policies, health policies, welfare policies and social and economic programmes in developing countries.

Considering the increasing number of research projects and evaluation tasks it is undertaking, IRVAPP wishes to appointment two researchers to contribute to its institutional activity.

This is an excellent opportunity for someone with a background in Social Sciences (i.e.: Economics, Political Science, Sociology, Statistics or related disciplines) and an interest in the evaluation of public policies to join a multidisciplinary research team.

The post holders will be expected to contribute to existing and planned research in one or more of the following areas of policy impact evaluation: education, welfare, labour, industrial incentives, and health.

Duty of the post

- 1. Assume such duties and responsibilities appropriate to the appointment as may be assigned to him/her by the Governing bodies of the Institute or, as appropriate, by their Deputy acting on their behalf.
- 2. Work closely with the Director, the Director of Research and the other Senior researchers in specific research projects and areas.
- 3. Prepare reports as well as journal and conference papers describing the work that has been done.
- 4. Present results at technical meetings and conferences.
- 5. Contribute to the preparation of bids for additional competitive national and international research funding awards.
- 6. Any other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the Director or his nominee.

Candidates will be assessed against the following criteria:

Education, Experience & Achievements

Essential Criteria

- Good University degree and PhD (or equivalently experience) in a relevant Social Science (Economics, Political Science, Sociology, Statistics or related disciplines).
- Experience of using quantitative research methods.
- Strong knowledge of statistical modeling, particularly for the analysis of longitudinal/panel micro-data.

Desirable Criteria

- Interest and experience in evaluation of public policies research.
- Experience of designing and coordinating processes of survey data collection.
- Experience of teaching quantitative and qualitative research methods at postgraduate level.
- Experience of advising post-graduate students.

Skills & Knowledge

Essential Criteria

- Good working knowledge of Stata and, possibly, other statistical packages for quantitative analysis such as SPSS or R.
- Excellent communication skills in English and working knowledge of the Italian Language.

Desirable Criteria

- A good understanding of general methodological issues related to policy impact evaluation.
- A good knowledge of social inequalities and life course studies, labour market functioning, and education field, family and health events.
- Experience of working in an international environment.

Personal Attributes

Desirable Criteria

- Excellent interpersonal skills ability and willingness to work alone or effectively as part of a team to achieve individual and Corporate goals.
- Commitment to rigorous scientific research.
- Ability to work efficiently and to remain calm under pressure in order to meet deadlines.
- Excellent time management, planning and organisational skills.

Type of contract and terms of employment

The appointment is full-time fixed-term for 12 months in the first instance.

The gross salary will be in the range of €33.108,83 to €37.874,67 per annum depending on skills and experience.

The hours of work are such hours as are necessary to carry out the duties of the post as arranged by the Director or his/her nominee. A notional working week of 38 hours is assumed for all full time posts.

The post will be based at Fondazione Bruno Kessler: Via.S Croce 77, Trento – Italy.

To apply for the post, please send your detailed CV (.pdf format) including a list of publications, statement of research interests and the names of two referees to info@irvapp.it.

Please send your CV with permission of the Personal data Protection Code, Legislative Decree no. 196/2003 June 2003.

The closing date for applications is 12:00 noon on 6 July 2011.

Those candidates who will pass the preliminary curricula screening will be contacted shortly for an interview. Those applicants who will not be selected, will be notified of the exclusion at the end of the selection process.

Please note that IRVAPP may contact those candidates admitted to evaluation within a period of 6 months for selection process of similar vacancies.

For transparency purposes, the name of the selected candidate, if he or she has accepted the position, will be published on the FBK website at the bottom of the selection notice.