The Penn Wharton Public Policy Initiative seeks to inform policy discussions in Washington, D.C. by supporting the production of data-driven, analytical research on issues at the intersection of business and public policy. Our team, headed by Wharton Professor, Kent Smetters, is a mixture of economists and technologists with expertise in data analytics and policy research. The team is currently working on the development of a new federal budget model that will offer policymakers in DC and members of the media a “test bed” to explore how their policy ideas will impact the federal budget and economy. There is a strong demand for this product on Capitol Hill by Members of both of the major political parties.

We are currently seeking to hire two Research Associates with a deep interest in economic research, to assist with faculty-led research on a number of public policy topics, including housing, finance, tax reform, health care and entitlements reform, and the federal budget. Job responsibilities include collecting and maintaining databases, performing statistical and econometric analyses, writing research reports, and providing research-related technical programming support.

Requirements include a bachelor’s degree, preferably in Economics, Statistics, Finance, Mathematics, Computer Science, or a related discipline. A thorough understanding of economics, ability to use statistical and programming tools, and self-motivation are highly valued in performing these functions. The ideal candidate is interested in spending two years with us before heading to graduate school.

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