



Candidate Specification

Evaluation Manager (Researcher), IGL

Salary: £30K-£40k per annum, plus excellent benefits
Location: Blackfriars, Central London (flexible working arrangements will be considered)
Term: 2 year Fixed Term Contract
Hours: 37.5 hours per week, but will consider those wishing to work part-time

Overview

Nesta is seeking an Evaluation Manager for the Innovation Growth Lab (IGL); a global laboratory for innovation and growth policy, set up by Nesta in partnership with several foundations and governments around the world. IGL sits within Nesta's Research, Analysis and Policy team.

IGL's mission is to make innovation, entrepreneurship and business growth policy more experimental and evidence-based. To achieve this, IGL works with governments in a range of countries to develop and test new ideas to increase innovation, accelerate entrepreneurship and support business growth.

This is a new role within the team. Working within IGL's research team, the successful candidate will apply their expertise in policy evaluation to manage and support a portfolio of policy experiments and generate new policy insights. They will also have the opportunity to have a lasting impact in identifying gaps and developing new systems, structures and resources to shape how we support and run trials in the IGL team

The Role

As the Evaluation Manager, you will be responsible for monitoring and working with IGL supported RCTs and pilot projects to ensure that they are delivering evaluations to the highest standard. This will include collaborating with project teams, funders and researchers to understand and resolve the practical issues involved in delivering evaluations. You would also help ensure that the relevant findings are identified and successfully used to inform public policy.

You will also use your knowledge and understanding of trials and project management to develop and implement systems, structures and resources that will help both supported trials, as well as those undertaken by the IGL team and partner organisation.



The projects you will work with include those funded through the UK Business Basics Fund and a H2020 call for policy experiments by Innovation Agencies, among others.

Key responsibilities:

- Critically review evaluation proposals, trial designs, analysis plans and project reports
- Monitor trial implementation, data collection and analysis, and providing advice and support as required
- Manage projects sensitively to encourage adherence to best practice
- Help to ensure that published reports are of a high quality
- Develop new and reviewing existing support systems, structures and resources used by IGL to support evaluations
- Identify, collate and help to disseminate policy relevant findings
- Identify wider learnings for undertaking trials in this policy area

We are also seeking a candidate who would be passionate about IGL's wider mission. Outside of the core role, there may be opportunities to work with IGL's international partners to help them build an experimental culture and identify where, when and how they can apply that approach. There may also be scope for the candidate to proactively develop new areas of work.

The Person

Essential:

- Experience of undertaking policy evaluations
- A keen understanding of how to design and run randomised controlled trials
- Able to work independently, learn quickly and show strong attention to detail
- Excellent project management skills and the ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously
- Strong communication skills, including a proven ability to present research findings to both analytical and non-analytical audiences
- A strong team player, with the ability to work flexibly and sensitively with others
- A strong degree in a relevant subject (such as, but not limited to, Economics, Public Policy, Statistics, Econometrics)
- IT literacy (Excel, Word, Powerpoint) as well as experience with statistical analysis software

Desirable

- Ideally you will have worked in the field of business, innovation or entrepreneurship policy, but this is not a prerequisite.



- A familiarity with implementation and process evaluation, in addition to impact evaluations, would also be beneficial.

About Nesta

Nesta is an innovation foundation. For us, innovation means turning bold ideas into reality. It also means changing lives for the better.

We use our expertise, skills and funding in areas where there are big challenges facing society, from the frontiers of personalised healthcare to stretched public services and a fast-changing jobs market.

Nesta is based in the UK and supported by a financial endowment. We work with partners around the globe to bring bold ideas to life to change the world for good.

How to Apply

To find out more about Nesta and to apply for this role please visit <https://www.nesta.org.uk/jobs/>

Closing date for applications is 08:00am on **4 May 2020**.

1st stage interviews will be held **w/c 11 May 2020**.

2nd stage interviews will be held **w/c 18 May 2020**.

Nesta is committed to equality, diversity and inclusion - we welcome and encourage applications from everyone.

Please note: After the job advert closes, your answers will go through a sift process: randomising and anonymising answers for taking out individual information that biases hiring decisions and facilitating us to review each answer by more than one person so you can benefit from the wisdom of the crowds. People scoring the applications will not have seen your CV at this stage so please try your best to answer questions without rephrasing your CV, they will see this later! [Click here to know more about the principles behind the blind review process.](#)