



## New Mexico Public Education Department - Statistician

The New Mexico Public Education Department (PED) is seeking a highly-motivated, data-savvy individual who is passionate about improving education to join the Evaluation Team as a statistician. The PED Statistician will be responsible for the evaluation of various policies and programs both within the Public Education Department and as an integral part of the New Mexico Accountability System. These projects include (but are not limited to) the New Mexico TEACH Educator Effectiveness system, A to F School Grading, and Teacher Preparation Program evaluation. The statistician will: design and coordinate complex causal analyses, use traditional and advanced statistical techniques to provide valid and reliable estimates of programmatic and policy impacts, and communicate methods and results to stakeholders, internal and external to PED both through oral presentations and written documentation.

A qualified candidate will have a large subset of the following skills and the willingness and motivation to learn the skills in which they are not fully proficient:

- Ability to develop an evaluation plan given a research question, available data, and policy requirements
- Ability to quickly absorb and analyze large amounts of new information to make decisions
- Proficient to advanced skills in a statistical program (preferably R, Stata, SAS, or SPSS) including the ability to write and comment complex code, create systems/functions for repeated use, and quickly and accurately analyze data.
- Knowledge of State/national education policies – ability to articulate education reform policies, present perspectives from a variety of stakeholders, predict long term impacts
- Ability to develop a linear regression model from raw data, including testing assumptions, selecting covariates, interpreting coefficients, and producing and interpreting predicted values and residuals.
- Ability to join, reshape, and calculate descriptive statistics on multiple data sets quickly and accurately.
- High-level communication skills – able to articulate technical information in writing and in person in a clear and concise way, including presenting controversial information to mixed audiences

An ideal candidate would also have at least one of the following skills:

- Knowledge of Hierarchical Linear Modeling and/or Value Added Modeling
- Understanding of causal inference and/or (quasi)experimental design
- Knowledge of a variety of advanced quantitative techniques that could include factor analysis, principal component analysis, cluster analysis, structural equation modeling, non-parametric techniques, propensity score analysis, causal structural models, logistic regression, etc.
- Expertise in item response theory (IRT)

For more information about applying for this position, please contact:

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