



Policy and Data Analyst, Water Infrastructure

Summary

The next several years will see a historic investment in water by the federal government through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). However, disparities across water systems will endure unless we seize the moment to reform policies that leave too many US residents without access to clean water and too many water systems without the capacity to maintain and improve their drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater treatment systems. Our water team was founded around the knowledge that solutions, innovations, capacities, and policy changes can dramatically increase the speed and effectiveness with which we solve these problems. We believe we can play an important role in making that happen through direct work helping communities, especially disadvantaged ones, secure support and through data analysis and policy reform to make change happen on a systems level.

EPIC seeks to hire a Policy and Data Analyst with a strong skillset and passion to develop solutions and pursue policy reforms using strong data analytical skills, focusing on funding and financing programs, including the State Revolving Fund (SRF) program.

About EPIC

EPIC builds policies that deliver spectacular improvement in the speed and scale of environmental progress so people and nature can thrive. A national nonprofit, EPIC is committed to finding and highlighting the best approaches to scaling up results quickly. Learn about our water infrastructure work [here](#).

Position Description

Reporting to the Director of Water Infrastructure Policy, the Policy and Data Analyst will conduct insightful policy and data research and analysis to catalyze policy change that eliminates disparities in funding and financing water infrastructure. Policy and data analysis for rapid-response work on emerging issues at the state and federal levels will also be expected.

This position will focus largely on generating insights from datasets to help answer questions about water quality, affordability, and access across the United States. Utilizing project workflows and robust documentation, the policy analyst will collect, clean, analyze, and visualize water-related datasets to help identify and support equity-oriented policy recommendations.

Responsibilities

Tracking state allocation of funding from State Revolving Funds

- Analyze state Drinking Water SRF programs to track the allocation of water infrastructure funding, analyze whether the allocation of assistance is equitable, and develop recommendations to improve the collection and reporting of SRF data.
- Collaborate with colleagues to gather and review state Drinking Water Intended Use Plans and Project Priority Lists and efficiently interpret information in these documents to develop the database reflected in EPIC's [SRF Dashboard](#).
- Instigate and collaborate on creative and novel analysis of diverse sources of information on water financing and utilities that will help advance the water goals described and linked above.
- Coordinate with colleagues on data collection and organization and maintain internal project tracking systems using project management tools such as Airtable and Hubspot.
- Coordinate with colleagues to plan and organize webinars, write blogs and publications, and identify conferences and events where EPIC's SRF Dashboard and the insights generated through this work can be beneficially shared with interested stakeholders.

Water Infrastructure (40%)

- Create well-documented and durable workflows for collecting data (including unstandardized data) to advance key projects on the water team and yield valuable insights for policy recommendations and implementation.
- Generate analysis from the data to support research, policy analysis, technical assistance, and outreach efforts in various water projects, including policy reforms relating to green infrastructure, lead service line replacement, and SRFs.
- Show leadership and skill and knowledge development by becoming a source of data insights, hypotheses, policy reform ideas yourself and develop sufficient expertise that you synthesize information on state, utility and other programs in ways that effectively teach others at EPIC the most important things you've learned.
- Assist in communicating findings, particularly by developing static and interactive visualizations from the data that inform the general public, decision-makers, and advocates.
- Prepare policy analysis and recommendations through expert testimonies and public comments when needed.
- Track developments on key local, state, and federal efforts on relevant water issues.

Communications and Outreach (10%)

- Write reports, case studies, blogs, and grant reports to advance the visibility and importance of EPIC's water policy efforts.



- Develop highly interactive and well-used networks of collaborators, peers and contacts who advance our work and whose work we help advance too, because of your initiative in building those relationships.
- Engage with water policymakers, elected officials, regulators, legislators, utilities, and community groups as needed.
- Participate in work groups, webinars, convenings, coalitions, and public events.

Required Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree; an advanced degree or equivalent experience is a plus.
- 5+ years experience in one or more of the following areas: water, environmental policy, public policy, and administration.
- Strong quantitative skills and data management experience, for example, in Python, R, or Github.
- Demonstrated experience researching, analyzing, and communicating data to advance policy goals, preferably around water quality, water affordability, environmental equity, infrastructure financing, and/or climate resilience.
- Ability to explain complex policy ideas and data analysis clearly through written, visual, and verbal communications.
- Demonstrated commitment to equity and justice.

Desired Qualifications

- Experience in drinking water, wastewater, or stormwater management, finance, or technical operations.
- Direct engagement with communities on water quality, water affordability, water equity, or other environmental equity issues.
- Understanding of a range of water infrastructure and other relevant policy issues.
- Experience in using research and analysis for narrative building or advocacy, including in legislative, regulatory, community organizing, or other political settings.
- Network of relationships in the water sector or government agencies and officials.

Location

This position normally requires national travel to meetings, conferences, and other events several times a year. Work other than travel is done either at EPIC's College Park, MD office or at the candidate's home.

Salary range

\$70,000-80,000 annually, based on experience and qualifications

Staff Benefits

EPIC offers an excellent benefits package that includes health, dental, and vision care, 401k contributions, and four weeks of paid time off.



Application Process and Guidance

Qualified candidates should email Lilly Slaughter at LSlaughter@policyinnovation.org with “Policy and Data Analyst” in the subject line. Please include a resume and a cover letter labeled with your last name followed by the document type (e.g., “Ibrahim_Resume”).

We plan to review applications through early February and aim to bring someone on board by March 2024.

We believe that including more people from diverse backgrounds, including people of color, people from working-class backgrounds, women, and LGBTQ people, is essential for achieving our vision. We strongly encourage applications from people with these identities or members of other underrepresented communities.

We know there is not one ideal candidate who has all these traits. If you have a mix of interests, skills, and experience related to the above - and a passion for this work - please do not let a gap in your strengths stop you from applying for this role or reaching out.

Thank you for your interest in working with EPIC!