



Data Analyst / Scientist

Overview

The Afghanistan War Commission was established by the Afghanistan War Commission Act of 2021 (P.L. 117-81, § 1094) as an independent commission in the legislative branch. The Commission is charged with conducting a comprehensive study of U.S. involvement in Afghanistan from June 1, 2001, through August 30, 2021, examining key strategic, diplomatic, military, intelligence, and reconstruction decisions across more than two decades.

In its August 2027 final report, the Commission will produce findings, lessons learned, and recommendations to inform future decisions by Congress and policymakers throughout the United States Government.

Position Description

The Commission seeks a full-time Data Analyst / Scientist to source, vet, and structure datasets in support of the Commission's research and final report. This role requires strong analytical judgment, attention to detail, and the ability to translate raw and often conflicting data into reliable, well-documented material that research teams and the graphic design team can build on. The Data Analyst / Scientist will work across multiple research teams and coordinate closely with the graphic designer to ensure report visuals are grounded in accurate, defensible data.

All Commission employees must be eligible to obtain a TS/SCI security clearance; an existing clearance is highly preferred. The position is based at Commission offices in Crystal City, Virginia, and is for the duration of the Commission.

Key Responsibilities

- **Data Sourcing:** Identify and acquire datasets in support of research across multi-disciplinary fields.
- **Data Vetting:** Evaluate datasets for methodology, reliability, and provenance, and document findings for internal use and citation.
- **Reconciliation:** Compare conflicting figures across sources and recommend which to use, with clear rationale.
- **Data Management:** Clean, structure, and maintain analysis-ready datasets.
- **Prototyping:** Build prototype charts to test what the data will and won't support before handoff.



- **Graphics Collaboration:** Work with the graphic designer to translate vetted data into final report graphics, ensuring accuracy through review of drafts.

Qualifications

- Applied data analysis experience.
- Demonstrated experience evaluating data quality and documenting methodology.
- Security clearance: Candidate must possess a current Secret or higher level security clearance [or have held a security clearance within the preceding six months and have ability to obtain and maintain a TS/SCI security clearance.
- Strong written communication skills, with the ability to explain data and methodology to non-technical audiences.
- Background in defense, security studies, conflict data, or foreign assistance evaluation.
- Knowledge of and familiarity with U.S. activities in Afghanistan.
- Experience with data visualization tools.
- U.S. citizenship is required.

Compensation and Benefits

Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience.

The Commission may consider candidates for direct hire, federal government detail, or assignment under the Intergovernmental Personnel Act, as appropriate. Eligible employees receive federal employee benefits.

How to Apply

Submit a current CV and statement of interest via email to jobs@awc.senate.gov.

Note: This job description is intended to outline the general nature of the work and is not an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties, and skills required for the role.