Program Director
National Science Foundation

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Job Title: Program Director
Department: Social and Economic Sciences
Institution: National Science Foundation

Date Posted: Jan. 23, 2020
Application Deadline: Feb. 24, 2020, or until filled
Position Start Date: Available immediately

Job Categories: Director/Manager

Academic Field(s): Sociology - General
Political Science - International
Political Science - Comparative
Political Science - General
Interdisciplinary Studies
Government - Policy/Public Affairs
Government - National Security
Economics - Resources
Economics - Public Finance
Economics - Microeconomics
Economics - Macroeconomics
Economics - International
Economics - Industrial Organization
Economics - General

Job Website: https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/556182600

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SOCIAL SCIENTIST (PROGRAM DIRECTOR)

For nearly 70 years, the National Science Foundation (NSF) has been recognized as the premier Federal agency supporting basic research in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), as well as STEM education at all levels. As part of a current revitalization to address some of the world’s most pressing problems, the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences are playing a particularly compelling and exciting role. We seek qualified candidates for Program Director positions for the Division of Social and Economic Sciences (SES) within the Directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE). SES programs cover Economics, Sociology, and Political Science topics, via disciplinary programs and programs such as Accountable Institutions and Behavior (AIB) and Security and Preparedness (SAP). Interdisciplinary SES programs include: Decision, Risk and Management Sciences (DRMS); Ethical and Responsible Research (ER2); Law and Science (LS); Methodology, Measurement, and Statistics (MMS); Science of Organizations (SoS); Science and Technology Studies (STS); and Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace (SaTC).

The SES Division invites applications at https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/556182600 from experts who can help shape, invigorate, and manage the following funding programs with openings for Program Directors.


• Economics: The Economics program supports research to improve understanding of economic processes and institutions within the U.S. and throughout the world. The program strengthens empirical, theoretical, and other methods of rigorous research on economic behavior and phenomena. Almost every area of economics is eligible for support, including econometrics, economic history, environmental economics, finance, industrial organization, international economics, labor economics, macroeconomics, mathematical economics, and public finance.

• Ethical and Responsible Research (ER2): What constitutes responsible conduct for research (RCR), and which cultural and institutional contexts promote ethical STEM research and practice, and why? Do certain labs have a “culture of academic integrity?” What practices contribute to the establishment and maintenance of ethical cultures and how can these practices be transferred, extended to, and integrated into other research and learning settings? To answer such questions,
projects funded by ER2 investigate: (1) the effectiveness of methods for inculcating ethical procedures, practices, and environments in STEM; as well as (2) for methods found effective, ways of embedding them within STEM cultures.

• Science of Organizations (SoO): How do organizations develop, form and operate? SoO grantees study organizations of all sorts - private and public, established and entrepreneurial, designed and emergent, formal and informal, profit and nonprofit - since all are critical to the well-being of nations and their citizens. Of particular interest is the way organizations produce goods and services, create value, provide jobs, and achieve social goals.

• Science and Technology Studies (STS): This program supports research that uses historical, philosophical, and social scientific methods to investigate the intellectual, material, and social facets of the STEM disciplines. It encompasses a broad spectrum of topics including interdisciplinary studies of ethics, equity, governance, and policy issues related to the role of science and technology in society.

• Security and Preparedness (SAP): Fundamental questions about global and national security motivate the rigorous scientific research projects funded by this project. Substantive areas include international relations, global and national security, human security, political violence, state stability, conflict processes, regime transition, emergency management, international and comparative political economy, as well as peace science.

• Sociology: How do human interactions develop within and among societies, institutions, and groups? The Sociology Program encourages theoretically focused empirical investigations aimed at explaining fundamental social processes. Included is research on organizations and organizational behavior, demography and population dynamics, social movements and groups, labor arrangements and participation, stratification and mobility, family and social networks, race and gender in society, and the sociology of science and technology. The Program supports both original data collections as well as secondary data analyses that use the full range of quantitative and qualitative methodological tools. Also welcome are theoretically grounded projects that offer innovative methodologies for data collection and analysis.

The federal salary for program director ranges from $147,458 to $189,056 per year, and it is possible to maintain one’s current salary if it exceeds the federal cap. In addition to current opportunities in these specific fields, the SES Division is also interested in identifying candidates for future rotator positions in the program areas listed above—especially individuals planning for future academic years. Positions will be filled as a one- or two-year VSEE or IPA rotator, https://beta.nsf.gov/careers/rotator-programs, or as a one- or two-year Fed Temp
appointment, https://beta.nsf.gov/careers/federal-temporary-appointments. NSF positions make it easy for academics and other experts to be temporarily detailed to NSF on loan from their home institutions. Applicants must specify in their submissions at least one and no more than two programs for which they wish to be considered. Additional details about the full suite of programs supported by the SES Division can be found at: https://www.nsf.gov/funding/programs.jsp?org=SES. For more information on SBE, see: https://www.nsf.gov/dir/index.jsp?org=SBE.

**EEO/AA Policy**

NSF is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes candidates from a variety of diverse backgrounds.

**Contact Information**

Please reference Academickeys in your cover letter when applying for or inquiring about this job announcement.

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