

**NC Office of Strategic Partnerships**  
**Evidence Advisor opportunity and position description**

The North Carolina Office of Strategic Partnerships (OSP) increases and enhances partnerships between state government and NC's renowned research institutions and philanthropic sector to improve quality of life for North Carolinians. This includes elevating the State's internal capacity to use and generate evidence in its policy and programmatic functions.

OSP accomplishes this in part by building and enhancing collaborative networks of public officials and research partners. We prioritize partnerships that are scalable, sustainable, and develop public, open source resources. Strategic Partnerships is housed in the NC Office of State Budget and Management, which includes data-driven and evidence-based decision making among its priorities. Visit [NC Office of Strategic Partnerships](#) to learn more about OSP and our work.

OSP seeks an **Evidence Advisor** to help maximize discretionary spending on evidence-based policies and programs in North Carolina. A critical first phase of the work will involve collaborating with two to three state agencies to (1) identify programs that, based on available evidence, could be adjusted (e.g., contracted, continued, expanded, etc.); and (2) identify and prioritize opportunities to evaluate policy or program effectiveness using randomized controlled trials (RCTs). These activities collectively aim to bolster the evidence base for public sector spending, particularly spending on social programs, broadly defined.

The Evidence Advisor will join the Office of Strategic Partnerships during a time in North Carolina and nationally of growing commitment to using evidence in public sector decision making. In this context, OSP works with agencies to identify evidence gaps, facilitates partnerships that can help fill those gaps, and supports agencies' efforts to bolster their research capacity more broadly.

Responsibilities

The Evidence Advisor will play a critical role in:

- Developing and managing a process for identifying state agencies that will participate in evidence reviews of discretionary spending. This will include establishing priorities and parameters for determining 2-3 agencies that are particularly well-suited for this opportunity (e.g., timing, capacity, depth of understanding, complementing existing efforts, etc.).
- Conducting evidence reviews of 2-3 agencies' discretionary spending.
- Using learnings from evidence reviews to identify programs with strong RCT evidence of sizable impacts on important outcomes; focus state spending on replicating/scaling them with fidelity.
- Identifying and scoping out candidates for RCTs; developing RCT proposals for potential implementation.
- Tracking metrics; documenting and reporting progress, findings, and replication opportunities.
- Contributing to OSP's open source approach for sharing the strategies for and results of this work across North Carolina state government and beyond.
- Monitoring requests for and opportunities to provide support to other states pursuing relevant efforts; facilitating engagement to deliver that support.

### Core competencies

- Demonstrated expertise reviewing impact evaluation findings and assessing their credibility, scoping out field experiments, and communicating scientific findings to budget and policy stakeholders
- Training in evaluation methodologies, with expertise in understanding their relative merits and when to deploy which types of methods
- Knowledge of and familiarity with the North Carolina policy context preferred but not required
- Project management expertise; experience developing and deploying performance measures that empower accurate, timely project completion
- Self-directed and independent professional
- Exceptional professional and interpersonal judgment
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to convene, connect, and engage people, institutions, and ideas
- Strong presentation skills
- Knowledge of the scientific method

### Structure and timing

- Full-time
- Start date – as soon as filled
- This position is grant funded for two years with the possibility of renewal.
- Based in Raleigh, with possibility of travel in and outside of North Carolina. Due to COVID-19, remote work as needed is expected.
- Salary range \$100,000 – \$110,000 with benefits.

To apply, please send a resume, letter of interest, and work sample to [partnerships@osbm.nc.gov](mailto:partnerships@osbm.nc.gov). A performance task will be part of the application process.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.