The North Carolina Office of Strategic Partnerships (OSP) develops, launches, and enhances partnerships between state government and North Carolina’s research and philanthropic sectors. This includes elevating state government’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, research partners, and partners from philanthropy and the nonprofit sector broadly. We prioritize partnerships that are scalable, sustainable, and develop public, open-source resources. OSP is housed in the NC Office of State Budget and Management, which includes data-driven and evidence-based decision making among its priorities.

OSP seeks a Doctoral Associate for the 2023-2024 academic year. The Doctoral Associate should be currently enrolled in a North Carolina based PhD program (any field). The ideal candidate will have ideas for how to apply their training and expertise to state government in alignment with OSP’s core work, which includes:

- Developing and launching partnerships between state government and NC’s research and philanthropic sectors
- Elevating state government’s internal capacity to use and generate evidence in its policy and programmatic functions

Responsibilities may include but not be limited to:
- Assist the OSP team and partners (state agencies, colleges and universities, philanthropies, others) with government-research and government-philanthropy partnerships
- Support program evaluation and research projects
- Contribute to OSP Evidence Advisors’ portfolio of work (e.g., developing agency research and learning agendas; research and evaluation projects to answer agency priority questions; and assisting with collecting, analyzing, and interpreting data)
- Conduct literature reviews of state agency policies and programs to identify what is known about the impact of interventions aligned with agency priority questions
- Outreach and engagement related to OSP’s partnership development process for state agencies, external researchers, and philanthropy

Core Competencies:
- Knowledge of common research methodologies and scientific method
- Experience conducting literature reviews and syntheses
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Self-motivated and able to work independently
- Able to work with diverse people with range of perspectives
- Adaptable and able to succeed in fast-paced environment
- Able to synthesize disparate information effectively
- Project management
- Preference for experience conducting mixed methods research; concentration in either quantitative or qualitative methods is acceptable

Position timing and structure, to be discussed on an individual basis: The Doctoral Associate would work with OSP for 15-25 hours weekly for the 2023-2024 academic year with the possibility for full-time if desired by the Doctoral Associate. OSP may consider candidates who are interested in a one-semester opportunity. OSP is based in Raleigh. The position may be primarily remote, in-office, or hybrid. This is a paid position. Details depend on available sources of funding, which may include OSP and the candidate’s college/university.

To apply: Send a cover letter, resume or CV, and work product to partnerships@osbm.nc.gov with the subject line “Doctoral Associate application [Last name] [First name].” Candidates may be asked to complete a performance task.

Contact partnerships@osbm.nc.gov with any questions.

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