



DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH, TIRF USA, Inc.

TIRF USA is hiring for a full-time position in the field of social sciences and behavioral research

The Traffic Injury Research Foundation, USA Inc. (TIRF USA; www.tirf.us) is hiring a Director of Research. TIRF USA is an independent road safety research institute with a focus on behavioral research and evaluation. TIRF USA obtained 501(c)3 non-profit status in the US in 2014. It works closely together with TIRF in Canada (www.tirf.ca), an internationally renowned research institute that was established in 1964.

The mission of TIRF USA is to develop and share the knowledge that saves by preventing injuries and loss of life on American roads, reducing related social, health and insurance costs, and safeguarding productivity. To accomplish its mission, TIRF USA conducts scientific research focusing on the behaviors and risk factors associated with different groups of road users, and the evaluation of programs and policies. A primary emphasis is on criminal justice, transportation and health systems.

Candidates with a strong track record in managing and conducting research projects in the field of social sciences and behavioral research are invited to submit their CV and cover letter by September 17th, 2017 at 5 pm Eastern Time. Please submit your application to Dr. Ward Vanlaar, Chief Operating Officer (COO), TIRF Canada, by email at: wardv@tirf.ca

Job description

The Director of Research is responsible for daily operations of the organization including the delivery of TIRF USA's research agenda, the development of proposals to secure project funding, day-to-day management of project tasks and budgets, conducting research and representing TIRF USA. The Director of Research will promote research findings to new audiences and provide support for general marketing and annual fundraising activities as needed. The Director of Research reports to the Board of Directors, notably the Secretary of the Board, Ms. Robyn Robertson. The Director of Research will work closely with the TIRF senior management team in Canada such that project activities involving TIRF USA and TIRF are coordinated and streamlined. Travel in North America and abroad will be required at times.

Core responsibilities

Developing project proposals and securing project funding

The Director of Research is responsible for executing TIRF USA's research agenda, generating new research projects and securing funding to undertake them. The Director of Research is expected to be proactive and maintain current knowledge of the research market and sponsor and stakeholder priorities. The Director of Research will collaborate closely with TIRF Canada's COO to develop proposals.

Conducting scientific research in the field of road safety

In addition to developing research initiatives to secure new funding, the Director of Research is also primarily responsible for leading and undertaking research projects for which funding is already



secured. This will require an intimate understanding of relevant and timely road safety topics including, but not limited to, alcohol and drug-impaired driving, distracted driving, aging drivers, teen drivers, vulnerable road users, and automated vehicles. Responsibilities include synthesizing the literature, collecting data, analyzing data, interpreting analysis results and report writing as well as writing of technical papers for professional and academic, peer-reviewed journals, fact sheets and media releases. The Director of Research will collaborate closely with TIRF Canada's research team in relation to these activities.

Project management

The Director of Research is responsible for the management of research projects and oversees all scientific aspects of these projects. To ensure streamlined delivery of tasks in coordination with TIRF Canada, the Director of Research will communicate proactively with TIRF Canada's senior management team about all aspects of projects as is relevant and appropriate, including finances, operations, staffing, and marketing.

Other responsibilities

Marketing & Communications

The Director of Research will, at times, undertake marketing, communication and promotional activities related to TIRF USA in cooperation with, and support from, TIRF Canada. Such activities may include, but are not limited to, developing project announcements, developing tailored project materials to facilitate dissemination, working with key stakeholders, responding to media requests, attending workshops and conferences, and networking with various organizations.

Fundraising

To a lesser extent the Director of Research will provide support as needed in relation to fundraising activities. This includes contributing to the development and dissemination of an annual fundraising campaign for TIRF USA with support from TIRF Canada's fundraising team, and identifying appropriate targets of the campaign in the US market. This may include helping to develop the campaign "ask", preparing donor and sponsor promotional packages, following-up with potential donors, recruiting new donors, and maintaining existing donors.

Required skillset for the position

A broad range of skills is required to effectively perform duties. In particular, the following general core competencies are expected of the successful candidate:

- > Thinking critically and independently;
- > Being meticulous and attentive to detail;
- > Managing priorities and organizing time well;
- > Communicating effectively;
- > Understanding clients' needs and concerns and representing TIRF USA well to stakeholders, clients and the public;
- > Being a dependable team player;
- > Being willing to learn new skills and share knowledge;
- > Having a drive for results;



- > Consistently adopting and reinforcing TIRF practices and policies.

Competencies specific to the position pertain to the Director's core responsibilities, including:

- > Familiarity with behavioral research in road safety or related disciplines such as criminal justice, health or transportation;
- > Familiarity with quantitative and qualitative research methods;
- > Proven project management skills;
- > Strong writing skills, notably for different types of audiences (e.g., academic versus lay audience);
- > Strong conceptual skills;
- > Track record for developing project proposals and securing project funding;
- > High level of intellectual curiosity and contribution;
- > Strong dissemination skills (e.g., presenting at conferences, talking to media);
- > Good computer skills (e.g., use of Microsoft suite of products, Stata, SPSS, etc.);
- > Leadership and innovation skills;
- > Ability to contribute to the creation of a team based environment.

Minimal requirements for this position

Interested candidates must have worked in the field of road safety or a related discipline for at least five years and be able to demonstrate their experience with scientific research on human behavior through publications in the academic and grey literature. They must also have a track record of successfully conducting and managing research projects, including generating ideas and developing proposals as well as securing funding to execute projects. With respect to the actual execution of projects, the candidate must have experience conducting literature reviews, formulating research questions and hypotheses, collecting data, analyzing data (using syntax and some familiarity with programming), interpreting results, formulating conclusions, and report writing. Having obtained a Ph.D. in a relevant field of social sciences is considered a strength. Mastering a second language besides English, such as Spanish, is also an asset.

Advantages and opportunities

TIRF USA is offering a full-time position, with competitive remuneration in accordance with industry standards and demonstrated experience and expertise. The successful candidate will work for an internationally recognized organization that is highly respected in its field; this comes with opportunities to contribute to socially relevant and fulfilling projects, to develop and execute your own ideas and apply your expertise, to disseminate results through various media, and work with practitioners to implement findings in the real world. Flexible working conditions can be negotiated with a focus on output and results rather than process. Advancement opportunities are available.