



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.

Candidates with a strong track record managing and conducting research projects in the field of social sciences and behavioral research are invited to submit their CV and cover letter by December 15th, 2024 at 5:00 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 alignment of activities with TIRF USA's research agenda, the development of proposals to secure project funding, and day-to-day management of project tasks and budgets. Disseminating research and representing TIRF USA at events is also a responsibility of this position. Working closely with the TIRF team in Canada is essential to coordinate activities involving TIRF USA and TIRF. 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 aligning activities with TIRF USA's research agenda, generating new research proposals and projects, and securing funding to undertake them. These tasks take place in a collaborative environment with support from the TIRF Canada senior management team.

Conducting scientific research in the field of road safety

The Director of Research is primarily responsible for leading and undertaking research projects. This requires an intimate understanding of relevant and timely road safety topics such as 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 writing of reports, articles and fact sheets.

Project management

The Director of Research is responsible for the management of research projects and oversees all scientific aspects of these projects.



Other responsibilities

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 developing project announcements, materials and social media content, responding to information and media requests, attending workshops and conferences, and networking with various organizations.

To a lesser extent the Director of Research will provide support as needed in relation to fundraising activities.

Required skillset for the position

Competencies specific to the position are:

- > Familiarity with behavioral research in road safety or related disciplines;
- > Familiarity with quantitative and qualitative research methods;
- > Proven project management skills;
- > Strong conceptual and writing skills, notably for different types of audiences;
- > Track record for developing project proposals and securing project funding;
- > 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.);
- > Demonstrates leadership, initiative, and innovation.

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. Having obtained a Ph.D. in a relevant field of social sciences is considered a strength.

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, especially for its work with practitioners to implement research 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.