Senior Analyst - Financial Sustainability

Bristol, UK
36,012 - £37,812

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(Mat. cover 13 months fixed term)

Job Ref: 1334

The Office for Students (OfS) is the new independent regulator for higher education in England. We were created in 2018 to ensure that all students, whatever their background, have a fulfilling experience of higher education that enriches their lives and careers.

It’s important to us that our organisation is more diverse so we encourage applications from people of all backgrounds and identities. We’re especially keen to hear from black, Asian and minority ethnic candidates who are currently under-represented. We’re also a Disability Confident employer – we’ll provide a fully accessible recruitment process and offer an interview to disabled applicants who meet the minimum criteria for the job.

An opportunity has arisen for a self-motivated person with skills in analysis and accounting to work in our Data, Foresight and Analysis directorate to focus on the analysis of financial costing and sustainability in the HE sector.

The Data, Foresight and Analysis directorate provides data and analytical support for the OfS. It supports a range of data collection, analysis and research activities that underpin the regulatory functions of the OfS.

This post is Bristol based, and available on a fixed term or secondment basis for a period of 13 months, to provide maternity cover. The role is full time; however, we will consider job share and part time applicants (minimum 0.8 FTE). Training and development opportunities may also be available.

The post-holder will need strong analytical skills to evaluate and interpret financial data across the HE sector and be able to demonstrate the ability form sound conclusions on financial risk and sustainability. You should also be adept at communicating complex financial data and analysis in a way that is accessible and understood by non-experts, whether it be through written or verbal communication, or through the presentation of data.

Key responsibilities include:
• Undertaking analysis on financial data collected from all registered HE providers and reporting findings and conclusions.
• Providing professional finance advice to continually improve the OfS’s approach to assessing financial sustainability and risk across the sector;
• Maintaining an awareness of the financial environment facing the whole sector; and contributing to strategic projects.
• Maintaining effective engagement with internal and external stakeholders to ensure that there is consistency in understanding OfS’s approach to monitoring, intervention and regulation.

The key person attributes to fulfil this role include:

• A good knowledge of finance data/ accounting practice and continuous development of technical skills
• Strong analytical skills in order to evaluate and interpret financial data and information and the ability to form sound conclusions on financial risk and sustainability
• Ability to communicate risks and issues effectively, orally, in writing and through the presentation of data
• Ability to work autonomously and to work flexibly with other staff to deliver outcomes to support sustainability work

This role will work flexibly with other staff to deliver the outcomes described as well as other financial sustainability work where required.

If you have the above qualities and experience, knowledge and interest in higher education, and would relish the opportunity to take on this role then we would very much like to hear from you.

Closing date: 23:55 on 11 February 2019.

Shortlist: 5 March 2019.

Interview date: 12 March 2019.

To find out more about what it’s like to work for the OfS, come to one of our open evenings on the 5 or 12 February. To find out more and register for one of the evenings, please visit https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/news-blog-and-events/events/ofscareers-evenings/

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