

YEF open call for Evidence and Evaluation Associates

The Youth Endowment Fund (YEF) is seeking to recruit Associates with skills and knowledge directly relevant to its evaluation and evidence work and is inviting applications to join its Associate pool.

YEF has a significant research programme of grant making, evaluation and wider research and evidence generation. We are looking for associates to support that work in key areas.

Evaluation

Over the next couple of years, the work by evaluation Associates is likely to include:

1. Assessing the quality of evidence underpinning applications to the fund
2. Designing and commissioning evaluations including:
 - a. Feasibility studies
 - b. Pilot studies
 - c. Efficacy and effectiveness studies (both RCTs and QEDs)
 - d. Evaluations of place-based activity
3. Holding set-up meetings between evaluators and projects and acting as an ambassador for YEF and YEF's approach to evaluation.
4. Ensuring that evaluations are designed and implemented according to YEF's detailed Evaluation Guidance.
5. Quality assuring evaluation reports ensuring that remain consistent and fit YEF's reporting guidance and templates.

We are wish to recruit Associates who have:

- Subject matter expertise related to YEF's remit, which could include expertise in:
 - Youth crime and justice
 - Developmental psychology
 - Prevention science
 - Implementation science
 - Children's services
- Expertise in evaluation design and statistics.
- Experience in designing evaluations, either as a research provider or as a commissioner.
- We especially welcome applications from Associates with experience of commissioning evaluations in a What Works Centre, government or related sector.

Please note that YEF is unlikely to accept applications from individuals from institutions on YEF's Evaluator Panel as this represents a potential conflict of interest.

Evidence generation and analytical expertise

Over the next couple of years this is likely to include work such as the following:



- Supporting the design, commissioning and delivery of discrete research projects.
- Conducting systematic literature reviews and evidence synthesis.
- Undertaking quantitative analysis on a range of administrative and longitudinal data sets.

We wish to recruit Associates who have:

- Strong project and relationship management
- Subject matter expertise/professional background in violence prevention/criminal justice/education/local government/youth work
- Experience in economics and, in particular, valuation and cost-benefit analysis techniques.
- Advanced quantitative analytical skills, with particularly experience with:
 - Administrative and longitudinal data
 - Retrospective policy analysis, via QED methodologies such as DiD and regression-discontinuity.
 - Knowledge of and experience using police force data
 - Geospatial analysis and data visualisation
 - Data science techniques, such as machine learning and unstructured data analysis.

Expectations and interaction with YEF

YEF Associates can be either freelance consultants or volunteers released by their employer to develop their skills and experience.

All YEF Associate roles are part-time, on an as-and-when basis. Much of the work can be delivered remotely, although some roles may involve in person meetings when that becomes safe to do so.

For Evaluation Associates there is a mandatory half day training session before Associates can be assigned roles. Associates should also plan a half day to read YEF's Evaluation Guidance.

Being part of the Associates Pool is no guarantee of work, instead the Associates Pool will act as a preferred supplier list who will be eligible to work with YEF as an Associate as and when opportunities arise. When an opportunity arises YEF will contact the Associates Pool and invite expressions of interest to carry out a discrete piece of work. Each discrete piece of work will be contracted separately.

Registering interest and next steps

You can register an interest by sending a CV and a short cover letter stating how you might apply your skills and knowledge to support YEF's evidence and evaluation work to evaluation@youthendowmentfund.org.uk.

The cover letter should also include:

- Whether you are looking for a paid or voluntary role.
- Whether you wish to be an evaluation Associate, an evidence Associate, or both
- Proposed daily rate



This open call for Associates will close on 9th April 2021, although there may be further opportunities in 2021. We will consider applications as they are submitted.

If you would like to discuss this opportunity further please email Daniel Acquah, Head of Evaluation, evaluation@youthendowmentfund.org.uk.