

Position Announcement

COASTAL ECONOMICS PROGRAM SPECIALIST Charleston, South Carolina

The S.C. Sea Grant Consortium (Consortium) is seeking a Coastal Economics Program Specialist to be based in its administrative office in Charleston, South Carolina. The Coastal Economics Program Specialist will conduct and coordinate the Consortium's efforts in developing and implementing rigorous applied economic methods to document the (1) market and non-market value of the state's coastal and marine resources, including their management and use, (2) economic value associated with Consortium-supported programs and activities, and (3) economic benefits which accrue from the Consortium's science-based coastal engagement programs.

The S.C. Sea Grant Consortium is a university-based state agency established in 1980 to optimize the environmental, social, and economic potential of the coastal and marine resources of the state and region through the support of high-quality research, extension, education, and communications programming. For more information about the Consortium, visit <http://www.scseagrant.org>.

Major Responsibilities

The Coastal Economics Program Specialist will provide the applied economic research and outreach expertise necessary to expand our capabilities, broaden our reach, and provide a wider range of services to the many constituencies which are requesting objective, economics-based information and technical assistance. The Coastal Economics Program Specialist will work independently and with applied economics professionals at Consortium member institutions and with key stakeholders throughout the state to assist coastal communities in analyzing the market and non-market value of the state's coastal and marine resources, and their uses, in terms of contributions to local economies, public safety, community resilience, and human health. In addition, the Coastal Economics Program Specialist will institute an ongoing economic assessment of the value of the Consortium's research, extension, and education program activities and outcomes.

The Coastal Economics Program Specialist will develop and lead the Consortium's applied economic research and outreach proposing new projects, coordinating project partnerships, tracking scopes of work and expenses, and producing deliverables and reports on results. Work plans for this position will be based on and consistent with the strategic plans of the S.C. Sea Grant Consortium, with guidance provided by the NOAA National Sea Grant College Program, the State of South Carolina, and target stakeholder and constituent groups.

The Consortium's Coastal Economics Program Specialist will:

1. Quantify and communicate the market and non-market value and contributions of the state's coastal and marine resources and sectors at the regional and state levels to coastal communities, organizations, businesses, and individuals.
2. Quantify and communicate the market and non-market value of science-based information and products supported by the Consortium and others to coastal communities, organizations, and businesses, and to state leadership, funding organizations, and institutional sponsors
3. Initiate and nurture partnerships with universities, federal and state agencies, and non-profit organizations to develop coordinated and cutting-edge approaches for conducting economic assessments of coastal ecosystem services in South Carolina.
4. Identify best management practices which will serve the Consortium well in evaluating and presenting economic benefits from diverse data sources and methodologies.
5. Generate and utilize tools and mechanisms to improve reliability and accuracy of the Consortium's economic impact reporting to the National Sea Grant College Program through its annual reporting process and to the State of South Carolina through its State Accountability Report.

6. Develop, produce, and distribute recommendations and guidance to Consortium researchers and program staff to ensure reliable and consistent documentation of the economic value and significance of the agency's science-based coastal engagement programs.
7. Assist in the planning and implementation of Consortium-sponsored state and regional conferences, workshops, and meetings.
8. Prepare performance-based program objectives, benchmarks, metrics, program evaluations, and other programmatic reports as required by the Consortium.
9. Supervise student assistants and interns and serve on graduate student committees when appropriate.

Required Qualifications

- Master's degree in economics, public policy economics, natural resource economics, coastal science with strong economics focus, or related technical field
- Practical experience in and knowledge of traditional and emerging approaches to resource valuation, impact analysis, and cost and benefit analysis
- Basic knowledge of and/or experience with marine and coastal systems (e.g., demographics, maritime community, climate, water, living and non-living resources, ecosystem health) in South Carolina and the southeastern United States.
- Demonstrated ability to build partnerships and communicate, collaborate, and work effectively with diverse groups of internal and external stakeholders
- Ability to interpret scientific research for non-technical audiences
- High level of analytical, organizational, and planning skills, effective communication skills
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team

Preferred Qualifications

- Three years of experience in applied resource economics
- Experience in program/project valuation
- Demonstrated proficiency in grant writing and management
- Knowledge of coastal policies at the federal, state, and local levels and experience working with state agencies, stakeholders, and other experts on coastal and marine issues
- Proven record of success in proposal writing and securing extramural funding

Position Type

Regular, full-time position contingent upon continued state and federal funding and on successful performance of duties. The successful candidate will be an employee of the Consortium. Agency hiring range: \$48,662 to \$59,500. The finalist for this position must successfully complete an e-Verify application and driver's license background check.

Work Location and Hours

This position is based in Charleston, South Carolina. Normal Consortium business hours are Monday through Friday 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. However, work beyond regular business hours, including evenings and weekends, may be necessary in order to complete the requirements of the position. Travel throughout the state and region is necessary; a valid driver's license is required.

To Apply:

Applicants must submit a complete application consisting of a letter of interest, curriculum vita (or detailed resume), and the names and contact information for three professional references, including their email addresses, to:

Ryan Bradley
 Assistant Director for Administration
 287 Meeting St.
 Charleston, SC 29401
ryan.bradley@scseagrant.org

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.
 Applicants will be contacted for interviews.

The South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.