



RESEARCH FELLOW, DATA SCIENCE

ABOUT THE POSITION

This is an exciting, 12 – 24 month funded fellowship opportunity for a researcher, including graduate-level students and Ph.D. candidates, with expertise in data science. The Research Fellow will contribute toward pioneering research to identify optimal project finance and customer enrollment and support models that may rapidly expand solar access to low- and moderate-income households. The Research Fellow, Data Science (“Fellow”) will work with Groundswell as a part of the “LIFT Solar Everywhere” project team will encompass data analysis, co-authoring publications, presenting findings, and working with Groundswell’s design and communications team to develop data visualizations and toolkits to disseminate findings for use by key stakeholders including policy makers, utilities, and solar finance leaders. While the focus of your work will be supporting the LIFT research project, you will also have the opportunity to contribute to the research and development of Groundswell programs in practice, which are currently serving more than 2,000 low- and moderate-income households with deep solar savings.

The Fellow reports to the Sr. Director, Project Finance and Product Development and supports the Senior Program Manager. You will work in a collaborative, team-driven environment, frequently communicating and engaging directly with project team members at other organizations, colleagues within organizations sharing data, and members of the project Research Advisory Committee. Because the solar market is highly dynamic and defined by state-level policies and regulations, you will need to be both highly organized and adaptable in order to respond to rapidly evolving state and local markets.

Groundswell is a values-driven social enterprise committed to a culture of belonging, and we invite you to review our Statement of Values as you apply.

Additional information about the LIFT Solar Everywhere research project is available here:

<https://groundswell.org/liftsolar/>.

A full description of the LIFT Solar Everywhere scope of work, including detailed deliverables and timelines, will be shared as context as a part of the interview process.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Data Collection and Analysis

- Data collection, which may include multiple types of data collection activities including customer experience interviews and surveys and Human Centered Design interviews.
- Data management, including cleaning data sets (standardizing field entries, controlling to ensure no PII is collected, etc.); aggregating multiple data sets from multiple sources for analysis; securing data and enforcing privacy and data controls.
- Analyze data collected in support of the LIFT research project. Data sets will include solar project finance model data as well as data on the customer experience of customers participating in solar projects that are subjects of the research. The solar market is dynamic and new potential research subjects within the scope of this project are rapidly emergent, so you will also be called upon to familiarize yourself with the field and proactively identify new data collection opportunities within the scope and schedule of the project.
- Comparison of LIFT collected data outcomes with other energy program data outcomes.
- Develop data visualizations and other communication tools to optimize usability of research and analysis by key stakeholders.

Publication, Dissemination, and Implementation

- Co-author publications and presentations sharing research findings. Groundswell provides a supportive environment to its team, and your work will be seen and celebrated.
- Contribute to the design and development of the toolkit that will propagate final research findings, recommendations, and data sets. In this work, you will be working closely with design and communication professionals to define use-case scenarios and data visualization tools to put the research you will help to develop to work.
- Contribute to Groundswell blogs, newsletters, social media, and other communications activities to amplify dissemination of findings to a broad audience.
- Identify barriers to expanding LMI solar access in emerging solar markets (e.g., policy, incentive environments, other factors). Support the Sr. Director and Senior Program Manager in preparing strategic analysis and recommendations that may enable Groundswell to overcome these barriers, to expand LMI solar access.

Program Management and Reporting Support

- Assist Senior Program Manager in collecting and organizing information for timely quarterly reporting.
- Establish repeatable processes for information collection from all partner organizations, and from Groundswell, to standardize and make reporting more efficient (i.e. both more accurate and less time consuming for the team).



Support the Development of Groundswell Operating Capabilities

- Work collaboratively with the Groundswell team to maintain operational systems and build or improve Groundswell's capacities for data analysis and systems management.
- Maintain industry working knowledge of applications and processes that support data collection, organization, analysis and protection. Recommend updates of systems or investment in functional capacities to Groundswell, with brief written support (cost-benefit rationale, etc.)

OTHER DUTIES

This position description is not designed to cover or contain a comprehensive listing of activities, duties or responsibilities that are required of the Fellow. Duties, responsibilities and activities may change at any time with or without notice.

COMPETENCIES OR SPECIALIZED KNOWLEDGE

- Data management, including a working knowledge of data security
- Data analysis, including applications and software to manage the functions of data analysis
- Ability to communicate (write, create graphic representations and visualizations) of analysis
- Knowledge of solar market structures preferred, but not required

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITY

N/A

WORK ENVIRONMENT

This job operates in a professional office environment. This role routinely uses standard office equipment such as computers, phones, photocopiers and scanners, document management systems, project management systems, videoconferencing tools, time management systems, and other software and tools. Groundswell's workdays are Monday through Friday, with core work hours from 9:30AM to 4:30PM. This is a part-time position, and a regular work schedule that meets your coursework, teaching, or other responsibilities may be developed with your Supervisor.

This position is eligible for Remote Work.

TRAVEL

Occasional US travel may be required for this position but is anticipated to be minimal.

REQUIRED EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

- Master's degree required; PhD or PhD-in-process preferred
- Masters and/or PhD training or equivalent professional experience in the fields of sociology, data science, mathematics, statistics, economics, with applied analytical functions required.



DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Previous experience in quantitative and qualitative data analysis, with demonstrated written summaries of outcomes required
- Previous experience with clean energy strategic analysis or financial analysis and/or related education desired
- Strong communication skills a plus
- Self-starter, motivated, able to work independently
- Strong planning and project management capabilities
- Personally and professionally organized (systems, processes, materials, work station)
- Ability to work nights or weekends on rare occasions, as needed

SUPERVISION

The Fellow will report to Groundswell's Sr. Director, Project Finance and Product Development.

COMPENSATION

This is a part-time position (20 hours a week) with compensation paid semi-monthly on the 15th and last day of the month. The salary range for this position is \$57,000- \$70,000 commensurate with experience. Part-time benefits include paid sick leave, accrued paid vacation (prorated based on hours worked), and a monthly cell phone allowance. The LIFT research program is supported by federal funds and is anticipated to continue through May 2022.

HOW TO APPLY

Candidates must submit a resume and cover letter to hire@groundswell.org detailing their qualifications and interest in order to be considered for this position.

Groundswell is an equal opportunity employer.

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