

Position Description

Research Analyst - Test Science

Department **Operational Evaluation Division**

Location **Alexandria, VA**

Closing Date **10/29/21**

Posting: [Career Center \(taleo.net\)](#)

More about IDA: <https://www.ida.org/>

Effective October 11, 2021, all current and newly hired IDA employees must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 unless they have been granted a medical or religious exemption. Individuals who accept employment with IDA will be required to provide proof that they are fully vaccinated or receive approval for a medical or religious accommodation prior to starting employment.

Who We Are

The Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA) is a private, nonprofit corporation headquartered in Alexandria, Virginia, just outside Washington, DC. IDA's mission is to answer the most challenging U.S. security and science policy questions with objective analysis leveraging extraordinary scientific, technical, and analytic expertise. IDA operates three Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDC's).

Why Work for IDA?

IDA's Operational Evaluation Division is seeking a Research Staff Member to join our Test Science Team in Alexandria, VA. OED's primary task is to support the DoD in evaluating how effective, suitable, and survivable military systems are under operationally realistic conditions.

Primary Responsibilities

- Assist in the design, planning, and observation of operational tests (e.g., develop test designs leveraging experimental design principles, produce power calculations);
- Provide quantitative analytic support to the government sponsor and other researchers within OED (e.g., predictive modeling, statistical analysis of human and system performance data);
- Assist in the preparation of documents (e.g., briefings and reports on the design, conduct, and findings of operational tests, graphs that clearly present findings from analyses, meeting materials);
- Communicate information about test design methods and findings from operational tests to the government sponsor in a clear, professional manner;

- Develop methods for dealing with the challenges of operational testing, emerging technologies, and improving data quality (e.g., small sample sizes, safety constraints, artificial intelligence, operational realism);
- Develop materials to educate the operational test community (e.g., quantitative and qualitative analysis techniques, test design methods, survey methods).
- Contribute to the development of policies, strategies, or frameworks surrounding the planning and execution of test and evaluation in DoD.

What Will You Need?

If you want to make important contributions to the Nation while enjoying challenging work, please apply now for consideration.

- A minimum of a Doctoral degree in Statistics, Data Science, Mathematics, Quantitative Psychology, Cognitive Science, Computer Science, or a similar degree that emphasizes quantitative analysis, artificial intelligence, or machine learning; OR a Master's degree in one of these fields coupled with 8+ years relevant career experience in the government, military, or industry.
- Candidates must have experience with one or more of the following statistical packages: JMP, R, SPSS, Matlab, SAS, or Python.
- Candidates must have demonstrated ability in applied statistics (e.g., design of experiments, linear modeling, reliability, or Bayesian methods).
- Ability to work independently or in teams.
- Expertise in one or more of Bayesian methods; computer programming; artificial intelligence; machine learning; legal, moral, and ethical issues involving technology; or human-system interaction is desired.
- Military or civilian DoD acquisition or test experience is desired but not required.
- Travel is required (25-30%)
- Successful completion of a background check is required.

U.S. Citizenship is required

Ability to obtain and maintain a security clearance is required

Equal Opportunity Employer