Chief Data and Innovation Officer
New Jersey Office of the State Comptroller

Unclassified Government Representative 1   **Salary Range: X98 - $120,000-$145,000**
Location: Trenton/Newark TBD   **Eligible for remote work 2 days/week**
Opening Date: 8/4/2023 & Closing Date: 9/1/2023

About the Office:
The Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) is an independent government watchdog. We make government in New Jersey more efficient, transparent, and accountable. Our office audits and investigates municipalities, school districts, and counties; state colleges and universities; independent state authorities; and state agencies. We monitor government expenditures, review public contracts, evaluate local and state programs, and oversee New Jersey's Medicaid program. We detect and uncover fraud, waste, and abuse and share our findings through public reports.

About the Role:
As Chief Data and Innovation Officer, you will develop and drive the implementation of OSC's data strategy, including data analysis, governance, and collection. An innovator and leader, you will be instrumental in shaping OSC's data culture and practices so that we can leverage the power of data to make government throughout New Jersey more accountable, effective, and transparent.

Your vision, leadership, and technical expertise will help shape OSC's investigations into fraud and corruption in government contracting, audits of wasteful and improper Medicaid spending, reviews that examine fairness in policing, and more. Reporting directly to the Acting State Comptroller, you will play an integral role in ensuring the agency uses the most efficient tools and approaches to maximize the impact of its work. Collaborating with internal functional units and external experts, you will serve as problem-solver, teacher, storyteller, and hands-on strategist, helping units identify, access, and analyze relevant data sources and then effectively communicate the data to non-technical audiences, including policymakers, the media, and New Jersey residents. The Chief Data and Innovation Officer is a skilled communicator who understands how to translate data into actionable insights that will improve government operations and services.

This newly-created position represents a unique opportunity to make a vital contribution in helping to make government in New Jersey work better for all of its residents.

Responsibilities:
- Oversee, implement, and direct OSC's data analytics efforts, to support oversight conducted by OSC's divisions and projects.
- Research, identify, and understand relevant data sources at state, local and federal level to aid in OSC's mission of identifying and preventing fraud, waste, and abuse.
- Establish effective and efficient methods to collect, manage, and integrate data from internal and external sources.
- Cleanse and prepare data for analysis, ensuring integrity and accuracy of data.
- Use statistical and analytical techniques to develop insights, risk assessments and models to support decision-making related to audits, investigations and reviews.
- Create and develop data visualizations or easy to understand data dashboards or reports to communicate data insights and findings to stakeholders and the public.
- Develop a strategy and roadmap for integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) and/or generative AI to enhance workflows and analysis. Ensure adherence to leading ethical or legal standards and best practices.
- Provide training to enhance data analytics skills of investigators and auditors and promote a data-driven approach office-wide.
- Work collaboratively with OSC's legal team to ensure timely access to data and ensure appropriate safeguards

and protections.

- Develop and implement data management and governance standards in accordance with applicable law, regulation, and policy.
- Coordinate, guide, and manage external experts providing data analysis to OSC on special projects.
- Collaborate and liaise with experts and other state and federal agencies to keep abreast of emerging trends and risk areas in the oversight community.
- Follow and share industry trends in Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning/Data Science.

Requirements:
- Bachelor's or Master's degree in Computer Science, Data Science, Statistics, Mathematics, Business Analytics, or a related field from an accredited college or university. Master's/ PhD degree preferred.
- A minimum of eight years of experience in data strategy, data architecture, data management, and/or data science, advanced analytics, or other related technical discipline.
- Hands-on expertise with data analytics and visualization tools and platforms such as Python, R, SQL, C++, Tableau, and other known programming languages.

The ideal candidate will have the following skills and experience:
- Ability to translate data insights into actionable strategies and recommendations.
- Excellent communication and presentation skills, with the ability to convey complex data concepts to non-technical stakeholders.
- Experience leveraging AI and machine learning technologies for data-analysis and decision-making.
- Demonstrated leadership skills with a track record of building and leading high-performing data teams.
- Demonstrated interest in government oversight, accountability, and transparency.

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, CV or resume, and portfolio of completed projects to:

Shama Nix
Office of the State Comptroller
P.O. Box 024
Trenton, NJ 08625
Email: careers@osc.nj.gov

NOTE: In accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:15C-5, OSC employees and personnel shall be deemed confidential employees and shall serve in the unclassified service of the Civil Service. Residency Requirements - Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14-7 (L. 2011, Chapter 70), also known as the "New Jersey First Act," all new public employees are required to obtain principal residence in the State of New Jersey within one (1) year of employment.

The Office of the State Comptroller is proud to be an equal opportunity employer. We are committed to providing a work environment that supports, inspires, and respects all individuals and in which personnel processes are based on merit, performance, and business needs. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, familial status, citizenship, age, or status as an individual with a disability. We believe that diversity and inclusion among our staff is critical to our success. We seek to recruit, develop and retain the most talented people from a diverse candidate pool and encourage applicants from all backgrounds and experiences to apply.

SAME Applicants: If you are applying under the "NJ SAME" program, your supporting documents (Schedule A or B letter), must be submitted along with your resume. For more information on the SAME Program visit their website at https://nj.gov/csc/same/overview/index.shtml , email: SAME@csc.nj.gov, or call CSC at (833) 691-0404.