



**ILLINOIS
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
INFORMATION AUTHORITY**

300 W. Adams Street • Suite 200 • Chicago, Illinois 60606 • (312) 793-8550

Research Director
The Illinois Criminal Justice Authority (ICJIA)

ICJIA is Illinois' leading criminal justice research, information sharing, and public safety grant making governmental agency. Its mission is to use research, funding, data collection, and information sharing to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and outcomes of the state's justice system. Alongside its core, mandated work, ICJIA has been tasked with staffing Illinois' State Commission on Criminal Justice and Sentencing Reform, the goal of which is to create a plan to reduce Illinois' prison population by 25% by 2025.

ICJIA is looking for qualified applicants for its Research Director who possess the creativity, pragmatism, ambition, collegiality, leadership, and vision needed to make the agency's Research and Evaluation Unit into the preeminent state-run research unit for criminal justice for the 21st century.

Job Description

The Research Director will report to ICJIA's Executive Director and is charged with the following:

- Translating a deep grasp of critical issues and research into policy that improves public safety outcomes and guides state and local criminal justice discourse.
- Supervising ICJIA's Research and Analysis Unit's 12 staff through leadership that inspires more effective work, mentorship that builds upon the unit's strengths, and oversight through regular meetings and performance evaluations.
- Managing the Research and Analysis Unit's budget.
- Designing and executing concrete research and evaluation plans that lead to both short-term victories and a long-term research strategy.
- Presenting research to all levels of state and federal policy-making officials, the media, and the public.
- Serving as a liaison to other ICJIA units, as well as federal, state, and local committees, task forces, and commissions.
- Collaborating with outside partners including governmental entities, non-profit agencies, private organizations, and universities to maximize the agency's limited resources and promote the agency and its mission.
- Facilitating research-informed grant making that encourages and supports innovative and effective responses to crime that strengthens public safety and reduces the state's overreliance on incarceration.

An Ideal Candidate Would Possess the Following:

- PhD in criminology, criminal justice, sociology, public policy, or related social science and ten years' experience in the field.
- Eight plus years of in depth knowledge of criminal and juvenile justice systems and related issues/policies; knowledge of Illinois' criminal justice system a plus.
- Minimum of eight years of advanced statistics and statistical software (such as SPSS/PASW), experimental research design, and cost benefit analysis.
- Noted published journal articles including brief pieces (brochures, newsletter, briefs).
- Working knowledge of official criminal justice data and limitations; knowledge of Illinois' criminal justice data a plus.
- Demonstrated experience with all facets of research planning, design, and execution.
- Accomplished in the creation of research databases for data analysis.
- Ability to incorporate new data and methodologies into research and analysis.
- Demonstrated commitment and ability to use research to drive more effective laws and policies.
- Comprehension of evidence-based and evidence-informed public safety programs.
- Understanding of protocols to protect human subjects of research and Institutional Review Boards.
- Proven experience in developing department policies and translating research into policy.
- Minimum of six years of experience with grant writing and managing research grant awards.
- Knowledge in navigating federal and state funding and bureaucracies; experience managing organizational budgets.
- Experience in recruiting and managing research staff.

Diversity

ICJIA is an equal opportunity employer and has a strong institutional commitment to embodying the principle of diversity in all aspects of its operations. In that spirit, we encourage applications from all qualified individuals without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, marital status, disability, and veteran status.

Applications

Applicants should send a resume and letter of interest, describing applicant's interest, experience, and list of references to Luz.Agosto@illinois.gov. Application process closes on March 25, 2015.