Research Analyst

About the Investment Association (the IA)

"At the IA, we are committed to serving our members, embracing new ideas and striving for excellence. We are inclusive, consideration and act with integrity in all we do."

The IA champions investment management, supporting savers, investors and businesses in the UK, across Europe, and around the world. Our members manage £8.8 trillion of assets. Our mission is to make investment better. Better for clients, so they achieve their financial goals. Better for companies, so they get the capital they need to grow. And better for the economy and society, so everyone prospers. The money our members manage is in a wide variety of investment vehicles including authorised investment funds, pension funds and stocks and shares ISAs. 75% of UK households now use the services of our members.

The IA seeks to be a world-class, values-driven trade association committed to being at the forefront of industry innovation, supporting members' businesses, by delivering a positive policy and business environment for firms.

The Market Insight Division collects and analyses a wealth of industry data to provide insight on the growth, development and economic contribution of investment management. We also provide insight to members on major industry themes including responsible and sustainable investment.

The Division is responsible for producing the annual Investment Management Survey, which is the industry reference point for data and trends in investment management.

Overview of the Role

The IA is seeking to recruit a Research Analyst to the Market Insight division. The role of the Research Analyst focuses on statistical analysis, commentary and the presentation of market trends in investment management drawing both on IA, wider industry and macro-economic data. It may also include developing survey questionnaires and conducting qualitative interviews with IA member firms and other industry stakeholders.

The Research Analyst will be expected to have input into the development of the IA's research programme and to be able to work independently on projects, albeit with appropriate support and oversight. The role will also involve a broader contribution to supporting the IA policy and corporate affairs divisions to assist in producing analysis to support the IA's advocacy work.

The Candidate:

The successful candidate will have strong numerical and analytical skills, as well as experience in writing research reports and presenting analysis. An interest in the investment management industry and/or policy and regulation is an advantage.

The Research Analyst will be expected to have input into the development of the IA's research programme and to be able to work independently on projects, albeit with appropriate support and oversight. The ability to generate ideas based on financial market insights or academic research is an important aspect of the role. The successful candidate must also keep up with academic/ market research and help the Market Insight Manager explore alternative datasets. An interest in using technologies/tools to enhance data and analysis is also an advantage.

Although the IA's Market Insight Division output has a well-established structure, it also needs individuals with a strong sense of initiative and self-direction to help ensure high quality research that can evolve over time. There will be opportunities to work as part of a team on reports as well as independently and the successful candidate is expected to have good time management and teamwork skills. The role may also require the candidate to work with different stakeholders within the IA and at member firms, so experience in managing different research participants is helpful.

Essential Skills / Qualifications / Competencies

We are looking for:

- Masters/PhD in Economics, Finance, Statistics, Computer Science or a related field

- Strong numerical analysis and independent problem solving

- Can demonstrate critical thinking

- Ability to identify trends within large datasets and confident in using Excel

- Excellent written English

- Can set clear research objectives and manage research projects to deadline

In addition, the following skills are desirable:

- Experience in presenting research and developing research narratives using data and insights

- An interest in policy, regulation and investment management themes such as responsible investment or investment trends

- Skilled in at least one of the scripting languages such as Matlabs/Python

- Experience of quantitative finance or econometrics e.g. correlation analysis, regression analysis and experience of using SPSS or equivalent

Please note this job description describes (but does not limit) the main duties and responsibilities of the job. These are subject to variation by the IA as is necessary to respond to changes, both internal and external, which the Association experiences.

We welcome applications from all qualified candidates regardless of their ethnicity, race, gender, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, age, marital status or whether or not they have a disability.