

EX-25-08B-PC (External)
Data Engineer

Overview

Open & Closing Dates

4/17/2025 to 5/19/2025

Service

Excepted

Pay Scale & Grade

GG-9/11/12

Salary

\$69,923.00 to \$131,826.00 Per Year

Appointment Type

Permanent

Work Schedule

Full-time

Locations

1 vacancy in the following location:
Arlington, Virginia

Relocation Expenses Reimbursed

No

Telework Eligible

Yes - as determined by the agency policy.

Security Clearance

Moderate Background Investigation

Drug Test

Yes

This Job Is Open To

Hiring Paths

The public

Hiring Paths Clarification Text

All U.S. Citizens - Current Career United States Postal Service Office of Inspector General, United States Postal Service and United States Postal Inspection Service, and Postal Regulatory Commission Employees will not be considered or selected from this vacancy announcement.

Summary

The United States Postal Service, Office of Inspector General is seeking a highly qualified and versatile individual to fill our Data Engineer position in the Research and Insights Solution Center located in Arlington, Virginia. Bring your skills and voice to our team!

Duties

The Research and Insights Solution Center (RISC) is the chief data and research component of the OIG, comprised of data scientists, data analysts, programmatic subject matter experts, geographic information system professionals, data engineers, research specialists, economists, and public policy analysts. Our analytics group offers the opportunity to drive value to the organization by designing and developing analytical solutions for auditors, investigators, and researchers.

The RISC analytics group is currently seeking an experienced Data Engineer and Full Stack Developer who will provide expert-level advice around data engineering to build data pipelines using sound DevSecOps. In this role, you will be responsible for designing, developing, and maintaining data pipelines, web applications, and machine learning workflows.

The USPS OIG uses a Pay Banding system, which is equivalent to the Federal GS scale. Grade and salary determinations will be made based upon a candidate's education and professional experience.

This position is being advertised at the Journey Band level, equivalent to a GS-9 to GS-12. The salary range for this position is \$69,923.00 - \$131,826.00. The salary figures include locality pay. Promotion potential to a GS-13 equivalent is at management's discretion.

Please note that the duties and responsibilities associated with this position may vary based upon the agency's needs at the time of hire. The following description of major duties and responsibilities is only intended to give applicants a general overview of the expectations.

- Work with cross-functional teams to deploy scalable data and artificial intelligence (AI) solutions on cloud platforms such as Azure, ensuring alignment with organizational goals.
- Design and implement data warehousing solutions that support analytics and data science initiatives, using advanced knowledge of database structures, data models, and performance optimization techniques.
- Develop and manage automated data pipelines to maintain data integrity, deploy machine learning models, and facilitate collaboration with data scientists and analysts.
- Use programming languages and tools like Python, Databricks, and Azure Data Lake to manipulate structured and unstructured data, creating efficient and scalable data pipelines.
- Integrate diverse data sources, including flat files, relational databases, SaaS applications, and web services using techniques such as JDBC/ODBC connections, REST APIs, and web scraping.
- Implement monitoring solutions, troubleshoot and resolve performance and production issues within data pipelines, leveraging findings to propose process improvements.

- Assess new data engineering tools and technologies, providing management with recommendations for enhancing data operations.
- Apply agile methodologies using tools like Azure DevOps and Git to streamline development processes.
- Design and develop responsive web applications using modern front-end frameworks (e.g., React, Angular, Vue.js) as part of full-stack development initiatives.
- Oversee the software development lifecycle, ensuring automated testing and quality assurance for data and analytics products.
- Create and integrate RESTful APIs with back-end services to enhance system interoperability and data accessibility.
- Develop automated solutions to improve operational efficiency and data governance.
- Provide strategic recommendations regarding data architecture and integration to meet evolving needs.
- Work closely with data owners to establish and enforce data quality and documentation standards.
- Collaborate with data analysts, data scientists, investigators, auditors, and researchers to address and fulfill the data requirements of the organization.

Requirements

Conditions of Employment

- Must be a U.S. citizen
- Must be able to pass a drug screening and medical assessment questionnaire.
- Must be able to pass a background investigation
- Must be able to obtain and maintain Moderate Background Investigation security clearance
- Must be able to obtain and maintain a government-issued credit card
- May be required to successfully complete a 12-month probationary period

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

You must meet ALL of the minimum qualifications listed below.

1. Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university
2. Must have specialized experience in building and maintaining data pipelines in cloud-based tools such as Azure Databricks, Azure Data Lake, or similar platforms
3. Must have specialized experience with Python or SQL
4. Must have at least 1 year of specialized experience with containerization and building CI/CD pipelines using tools such as Docker, Kubernetes, Azure DevOps, or Jenkins
5. Must have at least 1 year of specialized experience integrating REST and SOAP APIs to create and access data or to trigger procedures or commands

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

- Knowledge of DevOps and Agile methodologies
- Advanced degree from an accredited college or university
- Professional Certification(s) in data engineering such as Azure Data Engineer Associate or AWS/Google Cloud equivalent
- Knowledge of integrating business intelligence tools (e.g., PowerBI) with cloud hosted data repositories (e.g., Azure Data Lakes)
- Knowledge of Microsoft Power Platform tools
- Proficiency in HTML, CSS, and JavaScript
- Understanding of database systems, including SQL and NoSQL
- Familiarity with deploying applications and understanding hosting environments

EVALUATION FACTORS

You must have the experience, knowledge and skills as listed in EACH of the evaluation factors. Failure to demonstrate that you meet all of the evaluation factor requirements as listed below will result in a score of zero (0); an ineligible status, and you will not be referred for further consideration. Include your major accomplishments relevant to the position requirements in your resume.

- Skilled in exploratory data analysis, data quality management, onboarding and maintaining large datasets and data pipelines using cloud-based tools like Databricks and open-source programming languages.
- Demonstrated mastery of languages such as Python and SQL.
- Skilled in integrating REST and SOAP APIs to create and access data or to trigger procedures or commands.
- Skilled in containerization and building CI/CD pipelines using tools such as Docker, Kubernetes, Azure DevOps, Jenkins.
- Strong ability to provide presentations or briefings of technical information both orally and in writing to clearly communicate analytical products, arguments, conclusions, and recommendations to executives, peers, and other stakeholders.
- Ability to set goals, priorities, and complete high-quality work in a timely, efficient, and professional manner applying project management practices such as agile and DevOps.

You will no longer be considered for this position if you receive a zero (0) rating on any evaluation factor.

Failure to demonstrate that you meet all evaluation factor requirements will result in a score of zero (0). Upon receipt of a zero score, you will be deemed "not minimally qualified," and you will not be referred for further consideration.

Candidates will be evaluated on the skills that they possess that are directly related to the duties of the position and the experience, education and training that indicate the applicant's ability to acquire the particular knowledge and skills needed to perform the duties of the position. Only those candidates who meet all qualification and eligibility requirements and who submit the required information by 11:59 PM EST on 5/19/2025 will be considered.

Education

Education must be accredited by an institution recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Applicants can verify accreditation here: <https://ope.ed.gov/dapip/#/home>.

Special Instructions for Candidates with Foreign Education:

Education completed outside the United States must be deemed equivalent to that gained in U.S. education programs. You must submit all necessary documents to a private U.S. credential evaluation service to interpret equivalency of your education against courses given in U.S. accredited colleges and universities.

For further information visit: <https://sites.ed.gov/international/recognition-of-foreign-qualifications>.

Additional information

Pay is only part of the compensation you will earn working for the USPS OIG. We offer a broad array of benefits programs:

As a result of the passage of the Postal Service Reform Act of 2022 (PSRA), USPS employees (including USPS OIG) and retirees will transition from the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program to the Postal Service Health Benefits (PSHB) Program effective January 1, 2025.

Detailed information about eligibility and enrollment will be provided upon hiring. For more information, visit the Postal Service Health Benefits (PSHB) Program website at <https://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/pshb/#url=Overview>

We offer Health, Dental, Vision, Life and Long-Term Care Insurances with Flexible Spending options as well. For more information about these programs visit: <https://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/Guide-Me/Federal-Employees/>

Retirement and Thrift Savings. For more information about these programs see <https://www.opm.gov/retirement-center/> and tsp.gov/.

Flexible Work Schedules. USPS OIG offers a range of family-friendly flexibilities including flexible work schedules, telework and employee assistance programs.

Leave and Holidays. In addition to eleven (11) paid holidays each year, you will earn thirteen (13) days of paid sick leave and thirteen (13) to twenty-six (26) paid vacation days each year depending on your years of service.

Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) Status: EXEMPT. (Nonexempt employees are entitled to overtime pay; Exempt employees are not).

Our agency provides Reasonable Accommodations for applicants with disabilities. If you require accommodations during any part of the application and/or hiring process, please contact us by sending an email to SupportHiring@uspsoig.gov. The decision on granting an accommodation request will be made on a case-by-case basis.

How You Will Be Evaluated

You will be evaluated for this job based on how well you meet the qualifications above.

The Human Resources Office will review your resume and supporting documentation to ensure that you meet the minimum qualifications required for this position. You will no longer be considered for this position if you: receive a zero (0) rating on any evaluation factor; fail to attach all required documentation; if your application materials indicate that you are not minimally qualified for this position; or if you fail to qualify on the interview. Only the top-rated candidates will be referred to a review official or the selecting official for further consideration. Top-rated applicants may be required to participate in an interview. Your rating may be further adjusted or rated as ineligible by the review official or the selecting official based on your interview performance. Once all applicant scores are finalized, the selecting official will make a final decision. NOTE: If you receive a zero (0) rating on any evaluation factor or on the interview, you will be considered NOT MINIMALLY QUALIFIED for the position and rated ineligible. Applicants for this position may be interviewed one or more times as part of the hiring process. During interviews, applicants may not use any AI tool or virtual assistant (such as ChatGPT) to help them answer questions, except for accessibility tools used as part of a reasonable accommodation. Applicants who fail to follow these rules will be disqualified from the hiring process.

Required Documents

You must submit all required documents by 11:59 PM EST on the closing date of this announcement. Make sure you include the vacancy announcement number in the subject line when submitting your application package. For information on submitting application packages, please review the 'How to Apply' section. This announcement number for this vacancy is: EX-25-08B-PC.

1. RESUME. Required. It is essential that your resume and supporting documentation provide sufficient information to substantiate your qualifications for the announced position.

2. COMPLETE APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE. Required. Download the Application Questionnaire (PDF), complete the form, and include it in the application package.

3. SF-50: Required, if applicable. If you are or have been a federal employee. This is to demonstrate tenure and competitive/excepted service for eligibility purposes. Please name this file as SF-50 or Form 50.

4. VETERANS PREFERENCE DOCUMENTATION: Required, if applicable. If you are claiming veterans' preference. You must submit the Member 4 copy of your DD-214 Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, and/or other proof of veterans' preference eligibility, including your VA letter, SF-15 (www.opm.gov/forms), and all required documents related to your SF15 claim. Veterans can request the Member 4 copy of their DD-214 at <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>, and can download a copy of their VA letter from <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits-portal/ebenefits.portal>. If applicable, you are required to submit each veterans' preference document in the application packages. Please name these files as "DD-214" or "SF-15" or "Other Veterans Document."

6. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS: Required, if applicable. Degrees, Certificates, and Licenses. If there is an education, certification, and/or license requirement for this vacancy, relevant documents must be included in the application package.

If you are relying on your education to meet qualification requirements:

Education must be accredited by an accrediting institution recognized by the U.S. Department of Education in order for it to be credited towards qualifications. Therefore, provide only the attendance and/or degrees from <https://ope.ed.gov/dapip/#/home>.

Failure to provide all of the required information as stated in this vacancy announcement may result in an ineligible rating or may affect the overall rating.

How to Apply

To apply for this position, you must submit an application package containing all required documents, e.g., application questionnaire, performance appraisals, supporting documents, etc. The application questionnaire is available as a PDF in the vacancy announcement. The complete application package must be submitted via email at SupportHiring@uspsoig.gov by 11:59 PM (EST) on the closing date, Monday, May 19, 2025, to receive consideration. **Please include the vacancy number in the subject line when you are submitting your application package and all email communications pertaining to this vacancy announcement.**

For any questions on this vacancy announcement, please contact SupportHiring@uspsoig.gov.