

**IA-25-37A-PC (Internal)
Data Scientist Specialist**

Overview

Open & Closing Dates

6/11/2025 to 6/18/2025

Service

Excepted

Pay Scale & Grade

GG-14

Salary

\$142,488.00 to \$ 185,234.00 / Per Year

Appointment Type

Permanent

Work Schedule

Full-time

Location

Arlington, Virginia

Relocation Expenses Reimbursed

No

Telework Eligible

Yes - as determined by the agency policy.

Security Clearance

Moderate Background Investigation

Job family (Series)

2210 Information Technology Management

Drug Test

Yes

This Job Is Open To

Hiring Paths

Internal to an agency

Hiring Paths Clarification

Current United States Postal Service Office of Inspector General Employees only.

Summary

***PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT IS ONLY OPEN TO CURRENT UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL EMPLOYEES. OTHER APPLICANTS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.**

This announcement provides the opportunity for a reassignment/promotion to the position of Data Scientist Specialist in the AIG Research and Insights Solution Center (RISC). Bring your skills and voice to our team!

Duties

The RISC Chief Data Office conducts innovative research and analysis on Postal Service operations in support of auditors and agents. Our team develops analytical products that facilitate lead generation and provide critical insights for audit and investigative activities. Our methods frequently involve statistics or complex, multi-step analyses of large and disparate data systems.

The successful candidate will work extensively in a collaborative, team environment that involves audit and investigative clients, subject matter experts, project team leads, and executive stakeholders. RISC's work has a strong customer focus, requiring effective written and verbal communication skills to understand the needs of the client and to give structure to complex problems with undefined or ambiguous solutions. Our team requires candidates with strong analytical skills to develop fitting methodologies that maximize the impact for the client and allow successful project execution. The candidate will exhibit effective communication skills which include the documentation of analytical methodologies and briefings and presentations of technical content to executive leadership, stakeholders, peers, and other audiences.

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 6/18/2025 will be considered.

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 Specialist Band level, equivalent to a GS-14. The salary range for this position is \$142,488.00 - \$185,234.00. The salary figures include locality pay.

The Data Scientist Specialist is responsible for utilizing scientific methodologies, processes, algorithms, and systems to extract insights from structured and unstructured data and to provide guidance for data-driven decision making in support of OIG investigations and audits.

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.

- Works independently and within teams to use the necessary data extraction, manipulation, and aggregation techniques to prepare, clean, normalize, and validate data related to varied projects and tasks
- Independently researches, extracts, evaluates, interprets, and visualizes data and information as actionable intelligence for auditors and investigators to detect, prevent, and respond to fraud, waste, and abuse
- Advises on the potential benefits/uses of automation to improve the efficiency of program operations
- Designs experiments, tests hypotheses, and builds scalable models using data science and artificial intelligence (e.g. machine learning) methods
- Designs, develops, and adapts mathematical, statistical, econometric, and other analytical solutions for audit, investigation, research, and support functions
- Leads artificial intelligence activities such as natural language processing, predictive analytics, and machine learning model development, training, evaluation, testing, refinement, deployment, and maintenance
- Translates complex technical findings into an easily understood narrative
- Prepares comprehensive documentation for requirements, test plans, user manuals, technical diagrams, and training materials
- Develops project communications and maintains effective working relationships between project teams, stakeholders, and management
- Provides advice on issues affecting projects, such as data access, quality, and storage
- Contributes to and presents training and conference materials to large audiences
- Independently performs comprehensive and efficient data collection and analysis of a variety of data sources to develop trends, descriptive statistics, or other insights
- Uses expert level knowledge to identify and develop sources of information from structured and unstructured data, criminal intelligence databases, public information sources, internal Postal Service databases, reference manuals, and audit and law enforcement reports

- Uses relational databases, data lakes, data lakehouses, and other data environments to create a variety of analytic products such as business intelligence tools, summary tables, comparison graphs, or temporal, association, and link analysis charts
- Interacts with other agencies and builds relationships with peers to share information and learn the latest developments in analytical tools and techniques
- Develops substantial knowledge of database applications and environments and shares expertise with coworkers in support of agency goals and objectives

Requirements

Conditions of Employment

- Must be a U.S. citizen.
- Must be able to pass a drug screening.
- 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.

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in Operations Research, Mathematics, Statistics, Analytics, Geography, Computer Science, Data Science, Economics, or related engineering field

AND

- Must have 2 years of specialized experience with query language (e.g., SQL), programming languages (e.g., Python), business intelligence tools (e.g., Power BI), and analytics platforms (e.g., Databricks)

AND

- Must have at least one year of specialized experience equivalent to the GS-13 that includes organizing and analyzing large amounts of structured and unstructured data sets using data analytics tools; developing and implementing data collection and analysis tools while utilizing programming languages and environments (e.g. Python, Databricks, etc.); and using Python and analytics software to develop complex analytics, predictive modeling, and artificial intelligence solutions

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

- Knowledge and experience in the law enforcement and/or audit industry
- Knowledge and experience using cloud computing platforms such as Azure
- Knowledge and experience with relational databases and structured query language (SQL)

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 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.

- Mastery and application of advanced data mining and artificial intelligence principles, concepts, methods, standards, and practices to develop related products and solutions and to interpret and implement related policies, procedures, and governance strategies
- Advanced experience using Python and analytics software to develop complex analytics and artificial intelligence solutions
- Experience planning, conducting, and leading complex analytical projects
- Experience defining problems, assessing alternatives, and recommending solutions for complex data and analysis issues
- Extensive experience ingesting, transforming, analyzing, and visualizing large, disparate data sets
- Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, complex business and technical information

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.

Education

Education must be accredited by an institution recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Applicants can verify accreditation here: www.ed.gov.

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@uspsig.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: IA-25-37A-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. (**Required:** Name the file as “SF-50” or “Form 50”).

4. 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 www.ed.gov.

Failure to provide all 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., resume, application questionnaire, performance appraisals, SF-50, Veterans' preference documents, transcripts, and/or 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, Wednesday, June 18, 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.