Department: Economics
Working Title: Economics Research Assistant
Classification: Instructional Student Assistant
Number of Openings: 2
Pay Rate: $17.50/hour
Appointment: 10 hours per week, up to 40 hours per month
Expected Dates of Employment: March 2021 - May 2021
Deadline to Apply: Open until filled

Requisition #: ECON_ISA_2021

DUTIES OF THE POSITION

This project is seeking two (2) students to assist principal investigator (PI) Dr. Robert Eyler with a grant-funded project to gather and synthesize data and also conduct survey and interview work on the legal cannabis industry in five (5) counties: Sonoma, Mendocino, Humboldt, Del Norte, and Siskiyou. These five counties are considered primary source counties for raw cannabis, harvested outdoors, indoors and also in mixed-light settings. Students would be focused on interviews and surveys of cultivators and manufacturers primarily, but also those businesses and independent contractors that provide distribution services and also retail. The businesses along that supply chain will be identified by the PI.

Students hired will help manage a database of those cannabis supply-chain businesses and the interview/survey results. Students will be asked to draft a report of those results and prepare draft figures and tables to summarize findings. Students will also be asked to do literature research parallel to the PI and meet on a regular basis to discuss any findings and also the progression of the survey work.

Study Description

As of January 1, 2018, California made legal the cultivation, manufacturing, distribution, and retail of cannabis products with psychotropic components, but the industry has not evolved completely into a legal one due to array of factors including regulatory constraints that may continue to impede conversion from black to legal market activity. This study is meant to define the size of the supply and demand sides of the cannabis market in these five counties and provide an algorithm for the economic impacts of conversion to legal by county in terms of how legal operations differ from underground in terms of positive economic effects on communities.

This project provides an economic impact analysis and economic snapshot of the cannabis industry in five (5) counties in northern California. Mendocino, Humboldt and Trinity counties form an area known as the “emerald triangle” and have long histories of cannabis cultivation and entrepreneurship. Sonoma and Del Norte counties also have long histories and stretch an area from Highway 101 on the coastline to Interstate 5 with access to southern California as potential markets.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS
The ability to learn and perform assigned work; work cooperatively with faculty, staff, and other students; and accept responsibility. Completion of specific coursework may be required in order to teach, grade, or tutor a course. Admission or registration as a University student. Note: Exceptions to the minimum eligibility qualifications may be granted at the sole discretion of the University.

HIRING CRITERIA

Graduate or undergraduate student enrolled in a business administration, economics, or other relevant major who has demonstrated expertise in the collection and management of research data. Excellent communication skills, ability to draft reports and figures, and prior experience conducting interviews or with survey work and/or data analysis preferred.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the PI at eyler@sonoma.edu to submit a letter of interest or for more info about the position.

HIRING NOTIFICATION

By email from the PI

SUPERVISOR

Robert Eyler

OTHER INFORMATION

- The classification, Instructional Student Assistant, is one of three classifications in a collective bargaining unit, Unit 11. Instructional Student Assistants, who must be currently enrolled University students, perform tutoring, grading, or teaching-related duties under the supervision of faculty or professional staff.
- Sonoma State University hires only individuals lawfully authorized to work in the United States. All offers of employment are contingent upon presentation of documents demonstrating the appointee’s identity and eligibility to work, in accordance with the provisions of the Immigration Reform and Control Act.
- The university is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. We consider qualified applicants for employment without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, genetic information, medical condition, disability, marital status, or protected veteran status.
- This position is considered a “mandated reporter” under the California Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act and is required to comply with the requirements set forth in CSU Executive Order 1083 as a condition of employment.
- Successful candidates may be required to do a background check (including a criminal records check) before work in the position can begin.

SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

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