

Candidate Information

Position:	Data Scientist – KTP Associate – CARD Group
School/Department:	Research and Enterprise
Reference:	19/107782
Closing Date:	Friday 20 September 2019
Salary:	£24,000 to £33,000 per annum. One of the key KTP benefits for graduates is access to a £8,500 training and travel budget over the 24 month project.
Anticipated Interview Date:	Wednesday 9 October 2019
Duration:	24 months

JOB PURPOSE:

To develop an innovative system founded upon statistical principles to qualify the retail, leisure and foodservice potential of town centres. The system streamlines superior location planning for brands, resulting in sustainable and successful town centres for local authorities.

MAIN ACTIVITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Established in 2003, CARD Group is a commercial market research agency specialising in the retail, leisure and foodservice sectors. We work with clients across Europe to conceptualise and develop better ways of providing new consumer insight. Our information is used for everything from planning global store portfolios through to assessing the impact of marketing activities on changing consumer perception.

We wish to recruit a highly skilled and motivated graduate to work in CARD Group (based in Belfast) in collaboration with Queen's University Belfast. As a Knowledge Transfer Partnership, the post is for an initial 24 months, with subsequent potential for a longer term role.

You will be working to help realise a new approach for understanding how people choose to visit retail and leisure destinations.

The project will consist of the following key integrated project phases:

1. Assessment of current processes and data practices.
2. Implementation of statistical tests for rigorous analysis.
3. Implementation of Bivariate Discrete Choice Analysis Models.
4. Extension to a multinomial discrete choice analysis model.
5. Probabilistic Forecasting with Discrete Choice Models
6. Visualisation and communication of the data.

PLANNING AND ORGANISING:

- Manage and coordinate the items of work as laid out in the project plan (individual work plan will be provided by Supervisors).
- Plan day-to-day activity within the framework of the agreed work plan.
- Contribute to the planning and management of the project, approximately 3-6 months in advance.
- Ensure that all training and development activity is scheduled to ensure that progress on the work plan objectives is not interrupted or delayed.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Plan and manage day-to-day resources to ensure the project runs to time and on budget.
- Coordinate and obtain approval for planned expenditure/allocation of resources with the Management Committee and Steering Group.
- Carry out supervision of placement students or other staff members as required.
- Monitor travel and development budgets and produce a Personal Development Plan which will ensure best use of financial resources.

- Attend training modules (mandatory and additional job-specific training). This may be local, national and international.
- Perform any other additional duties as agreed by the Local Management Committee and Steering Groups to contribute to the development of the company, the university and the Associate.

INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL RELATIONSHIPS:

- Present regular progress reports to members of the Steering and Management Groups and to external audiences.
- Liaise with company staff on a daily basis. Contribute to training of staff in the company and university as required.
- Build relationships with both company and university staff to ensure effective working practices are established.
- Attend and contribute to any appropriate meetings, both in the company and the university as required.
- Establish contacts with additional groups and organisations (other KTP Associates, other university departments, other industrial contacts, and Innovate UK) as required to develop knowledge and understanding and form relationships for future collaboration.
- Act as an Ambassador for the Knowledge Transfer Partnership Scheme.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Knowledge Transfer Partnerships is a UK programme that enables businesses to work with universities to gain access to specialist knowledge and expertise and apply it within their organisation. Each Partnership recruits a Graduate to work in the company, implementing and embedding the latest research techniques. Guidance is provided by the academic and company supervisors to ensure that the objectives of the project are met. Although the scheme is aimed at recent graduates, any suitably qualified individual may apply.
- Each KTP is a fully salaried job that lasts between twelve and thirty six months, providing the graduate with an opportunity to fast track a career in industry. Each KTP Associate has a training and development budget and a travel budget. This funding provides opportunities for job-specific training, attending and presenting at conferences, visiting trade shows, customers and suppliers etc. Two, one week residential management training modules are also provided as part of the package.
- This partnership received financial support from the Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTP) programme. KTP aims to help businesses to improve their competitiveness and productivity through the better use of knowledge, technology and skills that reside within the UK knowledge base. This successful Knowledge Transfer Partnership project, funded by UK Research and Innovation through Innovate UK, is part of the government's Industrial Strategy.
- As members of University staff, KTP Associates can join the University pension scheme, gain access to University resources such as the Library and sports facilities.

More details are available at www.ktpjobsni.com.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Hold at least a 2.1 Honours degree (or equivalent) in Statistics, Mathematics, Computer Science or a closely related discipline. Candidates who hold, or are about to obtain a 2.2 in the above in addition to either a relevant higher degree or one year's relevant experience will also be considered. Please clearly state your qualifications and degree classification when making your application.
2. Relevant experience of modelling and solving computer science, mathematics, statistics or engineering problems. (may be demonstrated through a suitable module or project).
3. Experience of working with statistical and dynamic programming languages (eg. R, Python or a closely related language).
4. Good oral written and presentation skills.
5. High level of IT skills.
6. Ability to think logically, create solutions and make informed decisions.
7. A high level of numeracy and the ability to interpret data.
8. Ability to work effectively as a member of a group.
9. Well organised, attention to detail and ability to meet tight deadlines.
10. An interest in staying with the Company. (Associates are normally invited to apply for permanent positions).
11. Ability to take part in Associate management courses (requiring two one-week periods in England).
12. Willing/able to travel throughout the UK and Ireland and abroad, as necessary.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Hold, or be about to obtain, a Higher degree in a relevant area.
2. 1 year's relevant experience.
3. Experience in the application of discrete choice modelling methods would be desirable.
4. Experience of developing R packages

5. Ability to deliver training and follow-up support to operatives.
6. Ability to influence people effectively.
7. Tenacious and committed to achieving goals.