



Elevating
frontline
epidemiology

OPEN-SOURCE ANALYTICS:
TRAINING, TOOLS, AND SUPPORT

A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

WWW.APPLIEDEPI.ORG
CONTACT@APPLIEDEPI.ORG

R TECHNICIAN JOB DESCRIPTION

Applied Epi seeks applicants with R expertise and public health experience to join its roster of part-time technicians to support the implementation of R-based projects in public health agencies around the world, in English, Spanish, French, and Portuguese.

ABOUT APPLIED EPI

Applied Epi is a non-profit organisation helping the frontline public health workforce respond to public health threats through advanced, versatile, and cost-effective analytics capabilities.

Our group of more than 80 epidemiologists around the world work together to support other applied epidemiologists, particularly in low-resource settings, with:

- **Training** - to improve knowledge and skills in epidemiological methods and tools, most notably our [Intro to R course as well as other advanced R courses](#)
- **Technical support** - by providing guidance and review of R code or by developing surveillance products and analyses
- **Resources** - to develop R and epidemiology skills, for example the [Epidemiologist R Handbook](#) and our free online [tutorials](#) and [case studies](#)
- **An online community** - to connect epidemiologists around the world

Applied Epi has trained epidemiologists at:

Multinational: WHO, Doctors Without Borders, IFRC, European CDC, UNICEF, Vital Strategies, Save the Children, Resolve to Save Lives

National public health agencies and Field Epi Training Programs (FETPs): USA, Canada, Ukraine, Nigeria, Somalia, DR Congo, Uganda, Libya, Togo, Rwanda, Tanzania, Liberia, Gambia, Namibia, Ghana, Cameroon, Cambodia, Malaysia, Philippines, Taiwan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Peru, Belize, Guatemala, Mexico, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, Ireland, Moldova, Finland, Serbia, Kosovo, Albania, Norway, Sweden, Netherlands, Malta, Wales, Romania, France, Belgium, Germany

United States & Canada: US CDC, Public Health Agency of Canada, CDC Foundation, California DPH, New York State DOH, Colorado DPHE, Arizona DOH, Maryland DOH, US Virgin Islands DOH, counties in California, Georgia, Michigan, & Kansas, regions in British Columbia, Navajo Nation, and the Southern Plains Tribal Epi Center

Institutions: University of Global Health Equity (Rwanda), Emory, Johns Hopkins, Antwerp, Statens Serum Institut, Sciensano, Robert Koch Institute, RIVM

TECHNICIAN RESPONSIBILITIES

Applied Epi is seeking part-time technicians fluent in English, Spanish, French, or Portuguese to help epidemiologists worldwide develop their own projects in R.

Technicians will be required to do the following:

- Undertake a minimum of **four hours of calls per month** (flexible scheduling)
- In those calls, **review, troubleshoot, and provide guidance related to the R code of clients**
- Those also serving as **instructors** can take on **one-to-one calls to prepare students for the Intro to R course and provide tutoring** on course materials

OPPORTUNITIES

Technicians can progress to delivering other technical support projects, and may have the opportunity to travel to deliver technical support in person, if commitment and capability have been demonstrated. Technicians also receive support for their personal development, including ongoing feedback on their technical calls as well as access to advanced R training, and have opportunity to network with prominent global health agencies.

COMPENSATION

Technicians are paid **US\$45/hour for Code Review calls** (troubleshooting and development of client's own R code), and **US\$35/hour for course prep and course tutoring calls** (content from Intro to R course). Technicians are part-time contractors and are responsible for their own tax obligations. We encourage candidates to confirm their legal eligibility to work for Applied Epi (e.g. if residing with student visas). If your full-time employment or residency status do not permit you concurrent paid employment, volunteering is possible.

RECRUITMENT PROCESS

Individuals who are eligible for the technician role (see next page for criteria) can apply via apply.appliedepi.org.

You will be asked to:

- **Specify if you are applying to be an instructor or technician or both**
- **Answer a form describing your professional skills and experience**
- **Attach your CV**
- **Attach an R code sample and output that demonstrates your skill and coding style**
 - It can be an R, R Markdown, or Quarto script; please submit a code sample that reflects your skills (not a team effort).
 - If you are unable to share an R code sample as described above, you may submit an R markdown script that uses [this fake COVID-19 linelist](#) to create a weekly outbreak situation report (maximum 2 page output) that addresses any topic or trend you deem relevant to inform an audience of local public health and medical responders.
 - Please submit a report output (e.g. Word, Powerpoint, HTML) where possible. We do not accept data outputs.

Applied Epi is committed to recruiting a team that reflects the experiential, geographic, linguistic, and cultural breadth of the global public health workforce. All candidates will be emailed with their application outcome, with short-listed candidates invited to interview.





ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR TECHNICIANS

Technical skills

Required

- High competency using R for data management and analysis, particularly in the tidyverse, with clear and concise coding style
- Experience using R Markdown or Quarto to create routine reports

Desirable

- Experience using R geospatial packages, Github, R Shiny, SQL, or field data collection tools such as RedCap, KoBo, ODK

Public health experience

Required

- At least three years experience processing and analysing health data (e.g. disease surveillance data, complex research datasets)
- Professional experience applying R and conducting analyses for applied epidemiology in a government health agency or operational NGO. For example, responding to outbreaks, managing and analysing surveillance data, conducting operational research, and conducting surveys

Teaching and mentoring experience

Required

- Experience teaching or mentoring others in R
- Ability to explain code and epidemiological concepts clearly and patiently

Languages

Required

- Fluency in spoken and written English, including technical communication

Desirable

- Fluency in spoken and written French, Spanish, or Portuguese, including technical communication
- Ability to work in other languages

Other

Required

- Availability to deliver at least four hours of calls a month
- Commitment to advancing open data, open-source tools, accessible training, and to supporting R beginners in a variety of contexts

Desirable

- Willingness and ability to travel internationally
- Familiarity with the Epi R Handbook, Applied Epi [tutorials](#), & [forum](#)