HARVARD Kennedy School
JOHN F. KENNEDY SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT

Job Description

Job Title:	Post-Doctoral Research Fellow
Department:	Center for International Development, The Growth Lab
Reports to:	Growth Lab Faculty Director
Grade:	

About CID:

The Center for International Development at Harvard University ("CID") is recognized as a global leader in research to advance economic growth, social progress and governance reform in the developing world by expanding the understanding of development challenges and offering viable solutions to achieving global shared prosperity. CID has consistently been named one of the top ten global think tanks in international development.

About the Growth Lab:

The Growth Lab is currently seeking a Post-Doctoral researcher to join its team. The Growth Lab, an academic research program that consists of a dynamic, cross-disciplinary group of researchers, works to understand economic growth and structural transformation from the perspective that these phenomena are functions of the acquisition and diffusion of productive capabilities. This has led to questions such as: What are natural development paths for countries and regions? What are the vectors along which technologies diffuse throughout the national or global economy? How does complex knowledge get organized to produce sophisticated products? What is the role of cities therein? The Growth Lab approaches these questions in team-based efforts, bringing together an interdisciplinary team of researchers with backgrounds in economics, economic geography, mathematics, physics, computer science and related fields. Its team of Post-Doctoral researchers and visiting scholars aims to produce high-quality academic papers that are typically team-based, cross-disciplinary and multi-authored. Topics range from regional and international growth and innovation, to the workings of urban economies, the role of human capital and know-how in development and the role of FDI and migration in the diffusion of know-how. The Growth Lab aims to apply the understanding gained from this research agenda in real-world engagements (for current examples, see here). The Post-Doctoral researcher will be given the opportunity to participate in these policy-oriented engagements.

Position responsibilities:

- Conduct research related to the Growth Lab's research agenda in collaboration with the other members of the Growth Lab intended for publication in top ranking academic journals;

- Comment on, discuss and support research conducted by other members of the Growth Lab and its visiting scholars;

- Attend and help organize weekly seminars, research meetings and other research-related activities;

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- Collaborate with, participate in and advice the Growth Lab's policy-oriented teams to translate research findings into policy actions;

- Help write research proposals and reports to funding agencies;

- Help the Growth Lab reach out to the wider academic and policy community by presenting research results at international, national and local workshops, conferences and other meetings.

Requirements:

- PhD in Economics, Physics, Mathematics, Computer Science, Data Science or related disciplines.
- Familiarity and affinity with the Growth Lab's work on economic complexity.
- Familiarity and affinity with unstructured data and labor economics.
- Strong quantitative skills; ability to use Stata, Python, GIS, Matlab, R or other data analysis software
- Ability to work with large and/or unstructured data
- Fluency and excellent communication skills in English, including ability to present research and recommendations to senior officials and researchers
- Proven ability to write reports and academic papers

Specific assignment:
The current Post-Doctoral researcher position is a one-year assignment (with a possibility of extension) that focuses on the future of work, using economic complexity analysis to understand changes in jobs and labor markets. To this end, the candidate will gather, harmonize and analyze relevant data in collaboration with a cross-disciplinary team composed of other members of the Growth Lab. The project is expected to involve the use of natural language processing and machine learning tools. **Application deadline is August 18, 2019.** To apply, please send a cover letter, your CV, and a paper or article on a related research topic to andrea_hayes@hks.harvard.edu.

Reporting to this position: n/a

Physical demands and work environment:

I have read and understand this explanation and job description.	
Employee Signature:	Date:
Supervisor Signature:	Date: