

HIRING

Data Fellow | Virga Labs



WHO WE ARE

Virga Labs is a mission-driven natural water and resource consulting firm, based in Tucson, Arizona. We focus on delivering integrated modeling, analysis, and data visualization tools to drive solutions to wicked problems and the intersection of water, climate, and society.

We develop data-focused products at the local and regional scales, ranging from public-facing dashboards with high traffic to smaller bespoke customer-specific analyses and tools. Our products are designed to support decision-making, communicate water-related climate risks, detail economic impacts associated with climate risk, and visualize potential solutions.

We are a small cohesive team who thrives on strong communication, emotional intelligence, and a foundational desire to engage in some of the West's most pressing work. We foster a culture of respect driven by celebrating individual strengths, encouraging vulnerability, and supporting the personal and professional growth of team members. Our team is made up of individuals with a diverse set of skills and backgrounds who are committed to making the best available data come to life through dynamic tools and visualizations that make the information and resources more useful, accessible, and impactful.

We look for individuals who are looking to be on the forefront of data tool development to answer our most pressing water and climate issues and who are looking to collaborate with a highly driven team who shares in that passion. We believe connection is at the heart of our ability to work together and tackle the difficult but critical work we engage in and we are looking for individuals who are interested in engaging on that level, whether that be connecting one-on-one throughout the week or engaging in a group meditation. As a growing company each role at Virga Labs is unique, but all require a desire for a high degree of collaboration with a small team, the ability to listen, learn, teach, and compromise, and a willingness to roll with changing needs and priorities.

YOUR ROLE

As a Virga Labs Data Fellow you will assist in the development and deployment of backend infrastructure for modeling and data visualization tools. This role requires the Data Fellow to have an understanding of and experience using coding/scripting languages (R, Python, etc.) and collaborative software development (GitHub). You will be working within a highly communicative and dynamic team setting, leveraging your technical skills to support the buildout of dashboards, models, and visualizations. Key responsibilities will include supporting the team in data pipelining, backend architecture buildout, model runs, and data curation. Data Fellows will be fully integrated into the team at Virga Labs and have the opportunity to take on a multitude of tasks as you build your skill set and gain experience in a fast-paced tech setting.

Specific Duties

- Learn and apply the latest methods of open data science, such as collaborative data analysis, working openly online, and automatic reporting with R, RStudio and GitHub
- Collaborate with the Virga Labs team on one or two dedicated projects that will be completed by the end of the fellowship term. All projects will include publicly available deliverables to support Data Fellow's project portfolio development
- Work cooperatively with all members of the Virga Labs team to identify and implement the best available data solutions to achieve project goals

Preferred Skills and Experience

- Undergraduate or graduate degree in hydrology, geology, or related field; coursework in data analysis, modeling and computer programming preferred
- Advanced degree in quantitative field
- Experience conducting quantitative analysis and modeling
- Experience with water/hydrology and/or economics domains
- Knowledge of dynamics surrounding the Colorado River including Law of the River and current State and Federal policies
- Demonstrated productivity when working independently and as a team member
- Comfort communicating at both technical and executive levels of detail, especially when explaining complex topics to those new to the relevant subject area
- Effective communication skills and high degree of emotional intelligence
- Desire to be involved with a company whose work is at the heart of the water and climate challenges currently facing the western US
- Ability to work in a highly collaborative and inclusive environment
- Willingness to travel to Tucson, Arizona during Fellowship if requested

DETAILS

Timing | Position will begin in June or July 2022, with the exact date to be determined based on the selected candidate(s). This is a six-month, 40 hour/week term position.

Location | Our preference is for this position to be based in Tucson, but we are open to remote locations.

Compensation | Competitive salary; Flexible medical, dental, and vision benefits; Disability insurance; Paid time off; Computer set-up

COVID-19 Considerations | COVID-19 vaccine required (apart from a medical or religious exemption).

APPLY

Applicants should send a cover letter and resume combined as a single document in PDF format to: info@virgalabs.io please indicate "Data Fellow application" in the subject line. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and be accepted until position is filled, with preference given to candidates who apply before May 15, 2022.