Air Quality Scientist

Cambridge Environmental Research Consultants (CERC) is looking to recruit a new graduate Air Quality Scientist to join our scientific software development team.

CERC develops the Atmospheric Dispersion Modelling System, ADMS family of models, which are used across the world to calculate levels of air quality in the vicinity of traffic, industrial and other air pollutant emissions sources. The company is based in central Cambridge and employs around 25 staff, approximately half of whom work within the development team.

At CERC you will contribute to our longer-term research projects. Your work will typically involve manipulating the multiple datasets associated with running ADMS and other air quality models, specifically: air pollutant emissions, meteorological data, pollutant concentration measurements and dispersion model outputs. You will develop skills associated with quantifying model performance for different applications and gain experience using a range of software packages, including Geographical Information Systems (GIS). The techniques you learn will help you to identify sources of error and uncertainty in the modelling process and allow you to develop a scientific understanding of the models. The work will involve report writing, taking part in meetings with project partners, and giving presentations at scientific meetings.

You will have a strong background in physical science (e.g. maths, physics, chemistry, meteorology, engineering) at graduate level or higher. You will be able to analyse and interpret data, documenting your conclusions clearly, for instance using graphical and tabular formats. You will have demonstrated an ability to work in a well-organised and conscientious way, and to meet challenging deadlines. An aptitude for programming is desirable, and experience using programming languages such as Python, R, Fortran, Microsoft Excel VBA or MATLAB would be useful. Although in recent years the large majority of client interaction has been online, your role may involve some travel in the UK and overseas.

CERC encourages and funds appropriate professional membership, usually with the Institute of Air Quality Management / Institution of Environmental Sciences. We offer opportunities for all staff to attend events such as webinars and conferences. We will provide formal training through your attendance of CERC’s training courses.

Your salary is likely to be in the range £27,000 to £34,000, depending on your qualifications/skills and experience, and will be reviewed annually. You will be entitled to 25 days’ holiday per year, in addition to public holidays. In order to make sure that you and the position are a good match, you will initially be employed on a three-month probationary period. The post is initially full time, for one year, but may be extended or made permanent. Applicants may also apply for shorter duration and/or part-time appointments.

Please e-mail your CV, with a covering letter explaining your suitability for this specific post of Air Quality Scientist, to Winnie Piotrowski (no agencies please) at jobs@ cerc.co.uk. Closing date 6th June 2022. We will invite selected candidates for interview in July 2022. We do not sponsor applications for the right to work in the UK.