University of Manchester Q-Step Summer Project 2019

Ref: #15 UoMQStep 2019 ScaleUp Institute – What Determines ScaleUp Density?

For enquires, contact Dr Martin Prowse, martin.prowse@manchester.ac.uk (Lecturer) or the Q-Step general email – q-step@manchester.ac.uk

Organisation Name: ScaleUp Institute

Team/Department: Research

Address: 101 Euston Road, London, NW1 2RA

Provisional title for project: Regional Talent and Skills Scaleup Benchmarking

This project involves quantitative 'benchmarking' of socioeconomic success of UK local areas with a view to understanding how local factors influence the relative presence of scaleups (fast-growing firms).

It involves gathering a wide variety of different publicly-available data sources (for example school performance, availability of equity, infrastructure spending) and ranking local areas relative to other areas of the UK. The analysis will then use these benchmarks to assess how socioeconomic factors influence scaleup numbers (this could involve econometric tools such as regressions alongside simpler visualisations). The final output will inform the ScaleUp Institute's 2019 Annual Review.

Key words (up to 12): Business growth, scaleup, education, economics, data analysis, socioeconomics, infrastructure

Essential and desirable skills that the student would need to have:

Essential:

- Knowledge and understanding in business growth and economics
- Good communication skills
- Highly numerate
- IT literacy (particularly Google docs and Google sheets or Microsoft Excel)
- Good team-worker and communicator
- Ability to multi-task and strong organisational skills
- Desire to learn statistical analytical software

Desirable:

- Experience using statistical analysis/data analytical packages (Stata, R, SPSS or Python)
- Familiarity with Economic Geography

Where the work would be carried out: ScaleUp Institute's offices, 101 Euston Road, London, NW1 2RA

Preferred selection method (interview or other method): Skype interview

Interview preference (on campus, remote, in your office): Skype interview

Support and training offered by the organisation:

Training will be offered in the use of R to carry out data analysis. Support and guidance will be available throughout the project by the ScaleUp Institute's researcher, including on the location of the available data sources and suitable methods of analysis. Additionally, the intern will gain experience in seeing how quantitative research feeds into the public policy agenda, and how the work of the ScaleUp Institute and its partners informs discussions in the wider policy environment.

Any issues of data confidentiality and/or IPR that would need to be resolved:

None

Supporting information:

For more information about the ScaleUp Institute, please consult our website:

http://www.scaleupinstitute.org.uk/

In particular, to get a sense of the data analysis we undertake, read chapter one of our 2018 Annual ScaleUp Review here:

http://www.scaleupinstitute.org.uk/scaleup-review-2018/

Financial assistance offered by the organisation:

N/A