

Q-STEP SUMMER INTERNSHIPS 2021

Department for Education – Understanding the dynamics of the childcare provider market for early years in England

Organisation and Team

Department for Education: Early Years and Deprivation Analysis and Research Unit (EYDARU)

Piccadilly Gate, Store Street, Manchester, M1 2WD

Selection Method

Written CV & cover letter followed by an Interview

Application Criteria

Essential:

- Excel
- Communication (written and verbal)
- Team working
- Analysis of large datasets

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Desirable:

- Coding experience (e.g., R, SQL, SAS or SPSS)
- Knowledge of regression analysis/ statistical techniques
- Data visualisation

Key Words

Childcare, Provider market, Education, R, SQL, Excel, Regression, Quantitative, Early Years

Project Outline

The Early Years and Deprivation Analysis and Research Unit (EYDARU) publish a range of research reports and official statistics on childcare and education usage, quality and outcomes for children aged 0-5. EYDARU also conduct secondary analysis of these sources to build a broad and robust evidence base.

This project will involve a quantitative piece of research exploring the dynamics of the childcare provider market using various data sets within the Department for Education. The project will likely involve regression analysis examining what factors might predict whether a provider remains open, closes, or newly opens. The analysis could be completed using R or SQL, plus Excel. The outputs will help to shape future policy thinking in the provider market space.







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Practical Considerations

Remote working or from any DfE office across England.

8 week internship

Issues of Data Confidentiality / IPR

The successful candidate will need to return required documents promptly in order to pass Civil Service security clearance in advance of their start date, so that they can access the relevant data.

Support and Training

EYDARU is a multi-disciplinary team that can offer professional support from a range of perspectives (economists, statisticians and researchers). The Department for Education offers a range of internal training, including in R, Excel, communication skills and Government-specific learning, to which the successful candidate will have access.

Supporting Information

The successful candidate will have access to a variety of data sources within the Department for Education including: Early Years Foundation Stage Profile results, Early Years Census, Schools Census, Pupil Data Repository.

Expenses will be paid for any travel, subsistence and training during the placement in line with Department for Education policies.



