

## Job Description

<b>Job title</b>	Research Associate
<b>Department/School</b>	Institute for Policy Research (IPR)
<b>Job family</b>	Education and Research
<b>Grade</b>	7
<b>Reporting to</b>	Prof Nick Pearce, Director IPR
<b>Responsible for</b>	There may be a requirement for supervision of interns
<b>Location</b>	University of Bath premises

### Background and context

The Institute for Policy Research (IPR) at the University of Bath is collaborating on research into universal basic income with the newly formed Freiburg Institute for Basic Studies. [FRIBIS | Freiburg Institute for Basic Income Studies \(uni-freiburg.de\)](https://www.fribis.uni-freiburg.de) As part of that collaboration, IPR is convening a Microsimulation Research Group, consisting of academics and civil society partners with interest and expertise in microsimulation studies of basic income schemes. The Research Associate will conduct microsimulation research for the group and organise its collaborative activities, under the direction of Prof Nick Pearce, Director of the IPR. The position is for 2 years in the first instance, with the possibility of extension.

The provisional aims of the Microsimulation Research Group are:

1. To develop and refine microsimulation techniques with respect to their application to basic income research, through expansion into more advanced areas such as dynamic models of behavioural (labour market) response; modelling implications for intra-household inequalities, by relaxing assumptions about income sharing within households; and modelling schemes organised at alternative levels (sub- and supra-national) of political organisation.
2. To carry out substantive studies on specific basic income proposals, such as the Euro-dividend, or other specific national or sub-national schemes. In particular, to scrutinise the detailed proposals of political parties and civil society / advocacy organisations groups, where these are available. Project outputs would include 'standard' static analysis of fiscal, distributional and labour market effects, but would also extend to the more advanced / innovative areas mentioned above.
3. To provide a bank of technical expertise and resources (methodological literature). The aim would be to produce basic analysis of specific schemes on commission, for example in response to queries from policy makers, media, and other interested parties, as well as to facilitate the research community to carry out their own microsimulation studies.

## Job purpose

To undertake microsimulation research on basic income proposals and to organise the collaborative activities of the IPR/FRIBIS Microsimulation Research Group.

## Main duties and responsibilities

	Responsible to the PI for:
<b>1</b>	<p>Conducting microsimulation research studies for the IPR/FRIBIS Microsimulation Research Group. The postholder will be expected to use EUROMOD and other microsimulation models, and to advance the use of microsimulation techniques in their application to basic income research.</p> <p>Contributing to the design and execution of research projects e.g. timetabling and meeting project milestones; participating in regular discussions with collaborative partners; organising group meetings and seminars.</p>
<b>2</b>	Writing up results of research and contributing to the publication of results in high-quality peer-reviewed academic literature.
<b>3</b>	<p>Disseminating results of research project as appropriate to the discipline through activities such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• overseas research visits, including to the University of Freiburg</li> <li>• conference presentations</li> <li>• policy and public engagement activities</li> </ul>
<b>4</b>	Participating in IPR team meetings and preparing and delivering presentations/seminars to the project team, internal and external stakeholders.
<b>5</b>	Continually updating knowledge and understanding in the field of microsimulation studies to inform research activity.
<b>6</b>	Contributing to the development of research objectives and proposals for own or joint research projects, with assistance of a mentor, if required.
<b>7</b>	Disseminating knowledge of research advances.
	You will also from time to time be required to undertake other duties of a similar nature as reasonably required by your line manager. You are required to follow all University policies and procedures at all times and take account of University guidance.

## Person Specification

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
<b>Qualifications</b>		
A PhD degree in subject area of direct relevance for the project, or equivalent significant relevant experience and professional qualification	✓	
<b>Experience/Knowledge</b>		
Post-doctoral experience		✓
Demonstrated significant knowledge and experience in using microsimulation research methods.	✓	
Demonstrated awareness of latest developments in the field of research and in research design		✓
Demonstrated potential to publish in high quality, peer reviewed journals		✓
<b>Skills</b>		
Ability to prepare research proposals, to conduct individual research work and to disseminate results	✓	
Ability to organise and prioritise own workload to meet required deadlines	✓	
Ability to write research reports and to effectively disseminate outcomes	✓	
Excellent oral, interpersonal and written communication skills	✓	
Proficiency in appropriate techniques (as appropriate to discipline)	✓	
Proficiency in IT skills (as appropriate to discipline)	✓	
<b>Attributes</b>		
Commitment to working within professional and ethical codes of conduct.	✓	
Innovation and developing creative solutions	✓	
Commitment to excellence in research	✓	
Passion and self-motivation	✓	
Tenacity – working to achieve own and team objectives and to overcome obstacles	✓	
Ability to be an effective team worker	✓	
Commitment to safe working practices	✓	