

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CENTRAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES  
CLASS SPECIFICATION

RESEARCH ECONOMIST

POSITION CODE: 38209  
Effective: 7-1-14

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF WORK:

Under general direction, participates in the conduct of highly complex and specialized economic research and analytical work pertaining to the State of Illinois, its divisions, regions and/or subareas; participates in the planning of economic research projects and studies; consults with higher level division staff concerning the design and techniques of research projects and studies; collects a variety of economic data and statistics from primary and secondary sources; assists in the review, evaluation and selection of current economic literature and reports.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK:

1. Conducts comprehensive economic research projects and prepares recommendations concerning economic development proposals, investments, resources, etc.; carries out research and analytical work according to established research program designs.
2. Assists in the collection, verification and extraction of information for the agency's economic development library.
3. Recommends innovative research approaches for research projects and for analysis of economic development proposals.
4. Assists in the preparation and maintenance of economic accounts relative to the economy of the state and its subareas.
5. Reviews and evaluates submitted economic studies and prepares recommendations on substance, technique and accuracy.
6. Collects, organizes, verifies and arranges a large variety of data made available from published and unpublished economic statistics.
7. Serves as a source of information and data on the economy of the state and its subareas.

## RESEARCH ECONOMIST (Continued)

8. Consults with technical and professional persons involved with research and evaluation programs which may be of interest or benefit to the department.
9. Performs other duties as required or assigned which are reasonably within the scope of the duties enumerated above.

### DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS:

#### Education and Experience

Requires knowledge, skill and mental development equivalent to a master's degree in economics or closely related field.

Requires two years professional experience in the field of research and/or education in economics, or satisfactory completion of the Economist Associate training program.

#### Knowledges, Skills and Abilities

Requires extensive knowledge of published economic statistics, sources and data.

Requires extensive knowledge of research and statistical methods and techniques, sources of information, and methods of presentation.

Requires extensive knowledge of current research activities in the field of regional economics.

Requires thorough knowledge of economic development, theory and practices.

Requires ability to apply research methods and statistical techniques to the analysis and interpretation of economic data.

Requires ability to plan, construct, prepare and present comprehensive reports in oral and written form.

Requires ability to attend conferences and explain and interpret reports and studies.

Requires ability to establish and maintain an effective reference and control system.

Requires possession of a valid appropriate driver's license and/or the ability to travel.