



U.S.-CHINA ECONOMIC AND SECURITY REVIEW COMMISSION

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

POSITION TITLE: Research Assistant, Economics and Trade

VACANCY NUMBER: 004-2024-RAET

SALARY: \$57,000 per year; candidates with prior relevant work experience may be considered for a modified title and salary based on the candidate's position-related experience, education, and professional accomplishments.

POSITION INFORMATION: **Administratively Determined, Full-Time, Term-Appointed Position**
(The initial term of appointment is six months and is renewable by mutual agreement. The position is not covered by provisions of 5 USC that apply to Executive Branch employees regarding appointment, termination, competitive service selection, and pay related rules and regulations.)

DUTY LOCATION: Washington, DC

WHO MAY BE CONSIDERED: Open to all qualified U.S. Citizens

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: (1) All candidates must be available to work in-person in Washington, DC.
(2) Applicants must be eligible for a security clearance. Upon appointment, the selectee will be required to undergo a background investigation, and during the employment period may also be required to obtain and hold a Federal security clearance. An active clearance is not a prerequisite for applying for or initiating employment.

OPEN & CLOSING DATES: Monday, May 20, 2024 to Sunday, June 9, 2024
Applications may be reviewed and interviews conducted on a rolling basis as applications are received.

CONTACT: Email: Opportunities@uscc.gov

ABOUT THE COMMISSION

The U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission is a Congressional advisory commission, mandated to monitor, investigate, and report to Congress on the national security implications of the bilateral trade and economic relationship between the United States and the People's Republic of China.

The Commission's full mandate is posted at <https://www.uscc.gov/charter>.

MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the direction of the Director for Economics and Trade, the Research Assistant is responsible for supporting policy and issue analysis of China and U.S.-China relations, primarily in the fields of economics and trade.

1. Monitor, investigate, and assess developments relevant to the Economics and Trade Team's portfolio including, but not limited to, the topics identified in Requirements and Qualifications below.
2. Provide daily and weekly updates to Commissioners and staff on developments in the Commission's mandated research areas.
3. Assist in preparing detailed written and oral analyses and assessments of issues within the Economics and Trade Team's portfolio.
4. Provide support to Commission staff in researching and drafting assigned portions of the Commission's Annual Report or other research reports, and preparing testimony or other products by conducting research, drafting correspondence, writing, and fact checking.
5. Work with designated senior staff and team members to support hearing co-chairs in developing, planning, and executing Commission hearings.
6. Provide research, analytical, and other support on assigned issue areas within the team's portfolio for Commissioners and staff.
7. Attend seminars, meetings, and events on behalf of the Commission, and write memoranda to Commissioners and staff.
8. Conduct literature reviews, expert interviews, and other initial research to identify potential avenues for Commission research products and public hearings.
9. Provide substantive review on external contracted research reports.
10. Assist with developing and sustaining a professional network of China-focused professionals in the U.S. government, private sector, and academia.

REQUIREMENTS AND QUALIFICATIONS

1. Ability to present information clearly and concisely through both written and oral reports.
2. Research, analytical, and evaluative skills, including the ability to synthesize and analyze large amounts of disparate data on emerging and/or controversial issues.
3. Interest and knowledge, as demonstrated by relevant coursework or work experience, in at least two of the following areas:
 - China's domestic economy;
 - China's financial system, including its banking system and capital markets and their regulation;
 - China's technology development goals and industrial policy;
 - China's economic diplomacy and statecraft; and
 - U.S.-China bilateral trade and investment flows and China's adherence to U.S.-China bilateral commitments, its obligations as a member of the World Trade Organization, and other multilateral agreements.
4. Knowledge of U.S. trade laws, regulations, and procedures, as well as policy goals of the U.S. Congress and Executive Branch, especially those pertaining to the People's Republic of China and Taiwan.
5. Bachelor's degree or higher in a relevant field, such as Asian Studies, Economics, Political-Economy, International Relations, or Political Science.

6. Professional proficiency in Mandarin Chinese, to include ability to effectively utilize original language sources of electronic and print information in developing policy-relevant original research and analysis.

HOW TO APPLY

Submit a complete application package containing all of the below required documents **in one PDF file** via email to Opportunities@uscc.gov. **Incomplete application packages or information not received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the closing date will not be considered.**

1) Cover letter, to include:

- a. Position title
- b. Vacancy number
- c. Brief statement outlining your interest in the Commission and this position and how you heard about this position
- d. Concise, point-by-point responses to the **requirements and qualifications** you meet
- e. Your salary requirements
- f. Name and contact information for two professional references

2) Resume

3) Current Writing Sample

The writing sample can be on any topic; writing relevant to the position being sought is preferred; writing and editing must be your own work and should not exceed 5 pages.

WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER APPLYING

After submitting your application package, you will receive an email confirming receipt of your application materials. Please note this email confirmation is not automated and may take 2–3 business days to receive. You will be contacted via email if we would like to schedule an interview or require additional information. All applicants will be notified once the position has been filled.

HOW YOU WILL BE EVALUATED

The Commission will evaluate your cover letter, resume, and writing sample to assess your qualifications and experience. The Director of Economics and Trade, Executive Director, and appropriate staff will interview the top candidates. The Chairman and/or Vice Chairman may interview the final candidates. The final hiring decision will be made by the Executive Director.

Interviews will consist of two parts: 1) interviews with the Director of Economics and Trade, Executive Director, and appropriate staff; and 2) a writing test.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Commission actively seeks a diverse applicant pool and values having a variety of views, backgrounds, and experiences on the team. The U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission is an equal employment opportunity employer and does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of that individual's protected characteristics, including: race, color, religion, sex (including gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, and childbirth), national origin, age, disability, genetic information, marital status, uniformed service, or sexual orientation.

The Commission will provide reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities as appropriate. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

The Commission participates in the E-Verify Program established by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Social Security Administration (SSA). If you are hired by the Commission, the Commission will verify with the DHS and the SSA that you are eligible for employment in the United States.

Benefits. As federal government employees, Commission employees in six-month term positions are eligible to participate in the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program. Employees accrue and may use annual and sick leave in accordance with Commission policies and procedures. For more information, please visit <https://help.usajobs.gov/working-in-government/benefits>.