Economist

Position Summary

Farmer Mac is looking for an Economist with experience in economic, market, credit, and/or financial modeling to fill a dynamic role in the Research department. The Economist is responsible for a wide range of enterprise research initiatives, including but not limited to monitoring the agricultural economic environment, economic system modeling, agricultural lending market analysis, credit risk modeling, loan loss allowance calculations, and analysis of distressed assets.

The position will be responsible for developing market insights into the agricultural economy, developing internal and external research to support business initiatives, maintaining and improving Farmer Mac analytical models, supporting and developing portfolio analytics to improve business intelligence across the company, and supporting the Financial Planning and Analysis team's forecasting and stress testing processes. The Economist will be responsible for producing critical quarterly, annual, and ad-hoc reports with exposure to other company departments, thus the position will have a high degree of visibility and responsibility.

Suitable candidates must be able to balance competing priorities with deadlines. Equally important is the ability to work independently while bringing constructive ideas to improve the operations of the Research department.

The People You Will Work With

The position will report directly to the Chief Economist and will likely work with many departments, providing a research and problem-solving function. This role is moderately visible to senior management and the board of directors. The departmental work products are often presented in company committee meetings.

Where and When You Will Work

The position will be based in Farmer Mac's headquarters located at 1999 K Street NW, Washington, DC. Core business hours are Monday through Friday 8:30 am to 5:30 p.m. eastern time. Work outside of these times may be required for planned and unplanned activities to complete time sensitive projects or to attend off-site meetings or events. Periodic travel is expected of this position.

Responsibilities and Duties

Thought Leadership

- Develop and maintain economic forecasts and reports for use in quarterly and annual business reporting and planning;

- Develop and present economic updates to a wide variety of audiences including management, the board of directors, customers, ag lending industry participants, and agricultural producers;

- Author internal and external papers and articles to increase understanding and awareness of the economy, agricultural economy, and the Farmer Mac brand;

- Contribute to the annual strategic and operating plans; and

- Regularly speak with ag media on the state of the agricultural economy.

Reporting Functions

- Work with Data Analysts and think critically about report results and provide detailed analysis to stakeholders;

- Maintain and update work products regularly;

- Liaise with internal and external auditing teams;

- Architect reports for both management and Board level consumption; and

- Conduct surveys and analyze resulting response data.

Statistical Programming

- Execute existing SAS/R/SQL/Python programs and Enterprise Guide Projects and troubleshoot logs and results;

- Design and write new SAS/R/SQL/Python content to accomplish research needs and provide insights to business users; and

- Validate processes and programs developed by other team members.

Desired Skills and Qualifications

- Excellent problem solving, decision-making, and organization skills;
- Strong speaking and written communication skills;
- Experience as an Economist or Research Analyst;
- Experience with loan/mortgage data and analysis of mortgages;
- Knowledge of statistics and experience using statistical packages for analyzing large datasets;
- Programming experience (SAS, SQL preferred; R, STATA, Python or similar experience accepted);

- High proficiency or expertise in primary MS Office applications (Excel, Word, PowerPoint, Access);
- Attention to detail – commitment to accuracy while striving for an error free environment; and
- Self-starter with good communication and critical thinking skills.

Education and Experience

- 5+ years of experience with the agricultural economy or financial services, preferably with exposure to agricultural finance, mortgages, or fixed income analysis; and
- Master's degree in agricultural economics, economics, mathematics, statistics, or business preferred.

About Us

At Farmer Mac, everything we do is inspired by our mission, our promise and our values. We are a diverse group of talented, engaged, and passionate individuals who are committed to bringing vitality to rural America through innovation, collaboration, and excellence. This team embodies these principles that have guided Farmer Mac since its inception and help us to serve as a champion for rural America. Candidates for this position must share the same appreciation for rural America and should want to devote a career to serving those who help set the global standard in agriculture and rural utilities while advancing the livelihood of rural communities.

Farmer Mac's Mission

Farmer Mac is committed to help build a strong and vital rural America by increasing the availability and affordability of credit for the benefit of American agriculture and rural communities.

Farmer Mac's Promise

To build a strong and vital rural America through innovation, collaboration, and excellence.

Farmer Mac's Core Values

Stewardship	Unparalleled Service
Innovative Thinking	Collegial Collaboration
Unrelenting Excellence	Absolute Integrity
Passion for Rural America	One Farmer Mac

Farmer Mac is an equal opportunity employer.

NO EMPLOYEE OR JOB APPLICANT WILL BE DENIED OPPORTUNITIES OR BENEFITS AT FARMER MAC BASED ON RACE, RELIGION, COLOR, SEX, AGE, NATIONAL ORIGIN, DISABILITY, VETERAN STATUS, CITIZENSHIP STATUS, GENETIC INFORMATION, OR ANY OTHER BASIS PROHIBITED BY APPLICABLE LAW.