

# 22-06 INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION (IO) ECONOMIST

## *Health Analysis Division*

The Congressional Budget Office is a small nonpartisan agency that provides economic and budgetary analysis to the Congress. CBO seeks an industrial organization (IO) economist to analyze the economic effects of changes in regulation or legislation. The IO economist will contribute to the agency's understanding of how firms will react to changes in regulation or legislation, particularly changes that affect competition, prices, profits, and innovation. The economist will apply his or her knowledge of markets, mechanism design, and institutions to increase CBO's capacity to model various Congressional proposals (such as for a public option for nongroup health insurance), the impact of tax or reimbursement policies on pharmaceutical innovation, employers' responses to changes in federal programs, and regulatory or price changes in the health care provider market.

The economist will conduct theoretical and empirical analyses of complex policy problems affecting the federal government, taking advantage of its unique access to data. CBO obtains administrative data from executive agencies, including the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Commerce. For example, CBO has detailed information about the price of drugs and the demand for them in the Medicare Part D program—information drawn from individual-level purchases for the millions of beneficiaries in the program—and detailed information about hospital and physicians' services for Medicare beneficiaries.

The economist will work closely with other CBO staff to prepare information, studies, and testimony for the Congress, and he or she will also interact with a large network of academic and industry specialists. The successful candidate will contribute to developing new studies and to designing and improving state-of-the-art analytical models that underlie CBO's studies and cost estimates for proposed legislation. CBO's economists are encouraged to present both the agency's projects and their own research in CBO working papers and submissions to academic journals. Topics of analyses will shift over time with regulatory changes and the policy agenda of the Congress, providing new opportunities to develop and contribute.

### ***Qualifications***

The ideal candidate has a Ph.D. in economics or a related field. He or she is interested in public policy; experienced in applied industrial organization, market design, or a related field of economics; creative in applying and adapting insights from those fields to public policy applications; and able to explain complex concepts clearly and intuitively to a broad audience. People who are not citizens of the United States should review the agency's [citizenship requirements](#) or contact [careers@cbo.gov](mailto:careers@cbo.gov) for assistance in determining eligibility.

Furthermore, candidates should have experience with empirical research and statistical analysis software, strong interpersonal and teamwork skills, initiative and the ability to work independently, strong written and oral communication skills, and a track record of meeting deadlines.

### ***Salary and Benefits***

Salaries at CBO are competitive and commensurate with experience, education, and other qualifications. CBO offers [excellent benefits](#) and a collegial, respectful work environment.

### ***How to Apply***

Submit a cover letter, a résumé, a brief writing sample, and contact information for three references at [www.cbo.gov/careers](http://www.cbo.gov/careers). Ph.D. candidates and recent graduates must submit an unofficial copy of academic transcripts and have letters of recommendation sent to [careers@cbo.gov](mailto:careers@cbo.gov) in place of references. Only complete applications will be considered. To ensure consideration, apply by November 28, 2021. This



position is governed by the Veterans Employment Opportunities Act, as made applicable by the Congressional Accountability Act, as amended.

**Contact**

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