



## Senior Researcher, Transportation Program

As Senior Researcher for the Transportation Program, you will research and develop policy to reduce energy consumption and environmental impacts of transportation, evaluating the energy and greenhouse gas impacts of specific policies and vehicle technologies. This is a central strategy for the [American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy](#) (ACEEE) in achieving multiple benefits in the transportation sector including emissions reductions, economic gains, and improved health and equity.

The [transportation sector](#) consumes approximately 28 percent of all end-use energy in the United States. Despite major advances in vehicle technology and steady gains in average fuel economy over the past 15 years, a dramatic increase in the rate of progress is achievable and essential to achieve key environmental goals in the coming decades. The primary focus of this position is saving energy and reducing GHG emissions through advances in vehicle technology, including electrification and automation, for both passenger and freight vehicles.

In collaboration with many partners, ACEEE provides the technical groundwork and advocacy to advance fuel economy standards and related policies. In the Senior Researcher role, you will conduct in-depth analyses to better understand the opportunities for gains in vehicle energy efficiency from both the technological and the policy perspectives. You will develop models, write research reports, and work with colleagues, both internal and in other organizations. Your success will flow from your ability to stay focused on your key research projects while remaining flexible to tackle new opportunities as they arise, helping and mentoring other researchers with their projects, shaping the research strategy and future of the program for this area of work.

ACEEE's Transportation Program covers a range of topics across vehicles and systems. The program is engaged in development and review of policies at the federal, state and local levels to improve the efficiency and reduce emissions of passenger and freight transport. We conduct research to explore potential energy savings of new technologies and strategies. We produce environmental ratings of new cars and light trucks each model year for our website [GreenerCars.org](#). The Senior Researcher will have opportunities to contribute to work in these areas as well.

### Organization Overview

A national nonprofit research organization based in Washington, D.C., ACEEE believes that the United States can harness the full potential of energy efficiency to boost economic prosperity, improve health, and protect the environment for all its people. ACEEE is America's leading center of expertise on energy efficiency, actively contributing to debates on energy policy, clean air, and climate change. We are nationally recognized for leadership in promoting energy efficiency policies.

Our research and analysis are widely relied on by policymakers, business and industry decision-makers, consumers, media, and other energy professionals. We have contributed provisions to



all major federal energy legislation since the 1980s, provided guidance and support to federal agencies and presidential administrations, and engaged on energy efficiency policies and programs in over three dozen states and numerous cities. Our research and partnerships have also helped launch over a dozen other organizations and campaigns

## **Responsibilities**

- Research advanced light- and heavy-duty vehicle technologies, including electrification and automation, to determine potential to reduce energy consumption and environmental impacts. Conceptualize, design, and execute research projects.
- Manage and prepare high-quality, complex reports and other publications while setting and keeping to timelines and budgets.
- Model benefits of implementing technologies and policies to improve vehicle efficiency; design and advocate such policies.
- Analyze trends in vehicle technology, purchasing behavior, and driving behavior.
- Engage policymakers, regulators, industry, and public interest groups in actions to advance vehicle efficiency. Represent ACEEE externally to a variety of stakeholders and the media as a recognized expert.
- Provide technical assistance to outside partners on a variety of vehicle-related topics.
- Develop estimates of greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector under various scenarios.
- Work with colleagues across ACEEE programs in leading and supporting roles to carry out research, develop and advocate policies, and accomplish internal strategic and organizational objectives.

## **Qualifications**

- Advanced degree in a relevant field; mechanical or civil engineering, physical science, or environmental policy degree preferred.
- Demonstrated expertise related to transportation and environment issues with at least eight years of relevant work experience.
- Multiple peer-reviewed publications.
- Experience working on policy issues with stakeholder involvement.
- Excellent technical, analytical, writing, and communications skills, and demonstrated ability to work independently.
- Knowledge of environmental science, as well as energy, environmental, and transportation policy, is desirable.
- Ability to lead a team of staff and collaborate with other teams.



- Capable of engaging with a broad range of external stakeholders.
- Ability to work on several simultaneous projects with competing deadlines.
- Demonstrated ability to produce high quality research and to work independently

### Attributes

- Collegial. You thrive as both a self-guided researcher and a team contributor. You are approachable and responsive, and you build trust through your actions.
- Curious. You like to learn new things and have a natural curiosity, keeping up to date with current sector news and research.
- Effective communicator. Articulate and thoughtful, you are a superb writer, thinker, and listener. You effectively deliver complex information to a variety of audiences.
- Flexible. You adjust to changing priorities and operate effectively in an ever-changing environment. You understand the big picture and seize opportunities as they arise.
- Mentor. Your communication skills provide you with the ability to train and mentor others. You enjoy coaching, mentoring, and developing staff at all professional levels.
- Organizationally agile. You value teamwork. You seek out and respect other viewpoints. You effectively work across agencies and organizations to build strong relationships.
- Quick learner. You are hands-on, you ask questions, and you come up to speed quickly. You are adept with technology and what you don't know you can easily learn.
- Researcher. You creatively and thoroughly design, plan, and lead research and evaluation studies. You are analytical and able to structure analysis to enhance the value of our research and the products we provide. Your research methods are rigorous, dynamic, and up to date. You utilize a variety of methods and tools to obtain your findings.

### What's Attractive to the Right Candidate?

- In this role, you will have a high degree of autonomy to shape the research strategy and future of the program for this area of work, thinking creatively about the best way to continue ACEEE's achievements while inventing the path forward. You will have the ability to focus on your research projects without a lot of last-minute crises and distractions.
- This is an exciting time to be in the transportation energy space, as the sector is changing rapidly. We are well-positioned to shape outcomes and take advantage of emerging opportunities.
- We are a mission-driven, collaborative, entrepreneurial organization that offers workplace flexibility and professional development. You will find your colleagues to be friendly and dedicated, and the work to be intellectually stimulating.



- You will have the opportunity to work with an outstanding organization that provides information and advice to policymakers, the business community, and consumers, shaping programs and policies that protect the environment, promote energy security, and enhance the economy.
- ACEEE offers competitive compensation, based on qualifications and experience, with opportunities for career development. Benefits include ACEEE's generous package of health, dental, vision, disability, and life insurance coverage; a 403(b)-retirement plan; transportation and bike share benefits; three weeks of vacation in the first year and four weeks thereafter.

*Please note: Our practice is not to disclose the salary ranges our clients would consider. Any salary information included in this posting was estimated without our input.*

Staffing Advisors has been engaged to find the right candidate and is committed to helping create a diverse work environment for our client. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, genetics, disability, age, veteran status, or any other basis protected by law. This position may require pre-employment screening potentially including a criminal background check, verification of academic credentials, licenses, certifications, and/or verification of work history.