

**Agricultural Economist**  
**Union of Concerned Scientists**  
**Washington, DC Office**



The **Union of Concerned Scientists** is a nationally prominent science-based nonprofit working on issues we believe to be the greatest environmental and security threats of our time. UCS combines rigorous scientific analysis with innovative thinking and effective citizen advocacy to achieve practical solutions. We strive for a future that is free from the threats of global warming and nuclear war and a planet that supports a rich diversity of life. Our specific focus areas include global warming, renewable energy, advanced vehicle technology, nuclear power safety, nuclear weapons and related security issues, preserving the integrity of science, and sustainable agriculture.

As a core member of a vibrant and creative interdisciplinary team including ecosystem scientists, molecular biologists, media professionals, lobbyists, and communications specialists, the Agricultural Economist will bring strong analytic skills and deep understanding of agricultural policy to our Food and Environment Program and will have significant opportunities to contribute to program strategies on agriculture and the environment. The initial focus of this position will be the 2012 federal farm bill.

**The Position:**

Under the direction of the Food and Environment Program Director and working with other program staff, the Agricultural Economist will devise and advance economically sound policies to promote a sustainable agriculture; provide economic analyses on federal agricultural issues; produce economic critiques of agricultural policies offered by others; participate in relevant coalitions; and represent the program to the media, allies, and the government.

**Responsibilities:**

- Develop program goals, strategies, and tactics, particularly on sustainable agriculture issues.
- Review and critique current policies, propose new policies to address new problems, develop and recommend action plans.
- Design and carry out economics research and policy projects on primarily federal agricultural issues.
- Craft innovative, economically viable proposals for inclusion in farm bill and other federal policy vehicles.
- Produce major reports on agricultural, economics, and sustainability issues.
- Manage projects, including consultants, research, analysis, writing, and outside-expert review.
- Write program communications on agricultural, economics, and sustainability issues.
- Represent program on agriculture and sustainability.
- Participate in developing fundraising strategies.

**Qualifications:**

- Ph.D. in agricultural, resource, or environmental economics or other appropriate discipline
- Comprehensive knowledge of the economic and federal policy issues associated with agriculture, especially farm bill issues
- Familiarity with relevant economic models and datasets
- Strong analytic and project management skills
- Understanding of how economics and advocacy in shape public opinion and policy debates
- Excellent writing and public speaking skills

**Experience:**

- Five or more years of progressively responsible experience in agricultural, resource, or environmental economics and policy or related disciplines
- Familiarity with legislative and regulatory processes regarding agriculture
- Demonstrated ability to produce reports on economics and policy issues and write about complex policy and economic matters for a lay audience
- Evidence of strong analytical skills

NGO experience is preferred but not essential.

**To Apply:**

**Before August 5**, please submit a cover letter with salary requirements and how you learned of the position and resume via email to [jobs@ucsusa.org](mailto:jobs@ucsusa.org) and include "Agricultural Economist" in the subject line. Email materials in Word documents only. No phone calls.

**UCS is also hiring a Resource Economist and an Energy Economist. For complete information on our three open Economist positions, please visit <http://www.ucsusa.org/about/jobs-at-ucs.html>.**