Job Description – HESA Data Futures Developer

About the role
The Developer will work with colleagues in Data and Student Analytics to redevelop the systems used to manage the preparation of the University’s statutory returns to the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) to meet HESA’s new requirements (Data Futures). The developer will be involved in the design, build, test and implementation phases of the project in accordance with technical and quality standards.

It is an exciting time to join Data and Student Analytics. Our vision is to support, align to, and proactively drive the recruitment and student success strategy through continuous innovation in analytics.

The Returns system team support and develop the systems required to create the student and staff statutory returns to HESA and other UK funding agencies.

Key responsibilities
• Contribute to concepts, specifications and designs for the HESA Data Futures project.
• Design, build and test software components in accordance with the HESA Data Futures specifications, designs and standards using a variety of programming languages and tools.
• Provide technical expertise within a small development team.
• Perform unit, integration, system and operational testing.
• Champion common approaches and re-usable code.
• Apply appropriate project management and systems development methodologies.
• Engage with HESA and with other HE providers in the Data Futures pilots to share approaches
• Provide support for ad hoc requests for information and liaison with other units to meet their needs for information and analysis.
• Undertake other duties, as required, within the Data & Student Analytics team.

Skills and experience

Education, qualifications and training

Essential:
  1. Undergraduate degree (or equivalent) with strong engineering, mathematics or computing elements.

Desirable:
  1. Recognised training in computer programming.
Knowledge, work and other relevant experience

Essential:
1. Recent, demonstrable experience of developing in languages such as Javascript, SQL, .NET, XML, C and Python.
2. Experience of relational database connectivity (Oracle, SQL Server, etc.) and transaction processing.
3. Experience of object-oriented programming concepts and techniques.
4. Familiarity with rapid prototyping and more structured systems development techniques.
5. Proficient with Microsoft Office tools.

Desirable:
1. Knowledge of cloud-based technologies.
2. Knowledge of HE systems and data.
3. Experience of using SAS or similar statistical package.
4. Unix/Linux experience.

Personal abilities and qualities

Essential:
1. A self-starter, being able to rapidly transfer development skills across platforms and programming languages.
2. Aptitude for careful analysis and systems development, striving for highest level of product quality.
3. Work to high personal standards of accuracy, own issues and see them through to resolution.
4. Able to work under pressure to manage competing demands for time and to meet demanding deadlines.
5. Able to communicate appropriately with peers, business colleagues, internal and external stakeholders, and managers.
6. Committed to ongoing learning and personal development.