

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: *Agent-based Modeling Postdoctoral Research Associate* Job Announcement



The [Brown School](#) and the [ASPIRE Center](#) (Advancing Science and Practice in the Retail Environment) are seeking an outstanding scholar for a new postdoctoral research associate position at Washington University in St. Louis, working under the primary supervision and mentorship of [Prof. Ross Hammond](#).



We seek an interdisciplinary agent-based modeler with strong quantitative and computational skills to join our team. Research effort for this position will be split 50% through ASPIRE's [Tobacco Town](#) project and 50% to other research projects in computational social science and public health with primary supervisor Hammond.

ASPIRE is an interdisciplinary collaboration among Washington University, Stanford University, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill funded as a five-year program project by NIH to identify the role that tobacco retail outlets play in promoting tobacco use and causing tobacco-related illnesses. Within ASPIRE, the Tobacco Town project led by [Profs. Douglas Luke](#) and Ross Hammond focuses on developing a series of

agent-based models to examine and compare innovative place-based policies and their potential impacts on reduced tobacco product purchasing and consumption across diverse community contexts.

The postdoctoral research associate will also work closely with Prof. Hammond on other agent-based modeling projects in disease prevention policy (including ongoing work on childhood obesity prevention, health disparities, vaccine uptake, and food systems). The postdoc will have the opportunity to build collaborations across the highly interdisciplinary Brown School and its [15 research centers](#) (with active research in population health, dissemination and implementation science, social policy, and chronic disease) as well as the other [schools](#) at Washington University in St. Louis, and to develop independent research interests within the broad area of applied complex systems science. [Washington University in St. Louis](#) is a leading research institution with a highly ranked public health program and medical school, and provides a supportive environment for interdisciplinary research.

The position is for two years with a possibility of a third year. Required expertise for the position includes substantial experience in building agent-based models and using software such as NetLogo, RePast, Python, or R. Candidates must have completed a PhD in a quantitative social science, a public health program, a computer science program, a mathematics program, or a related discipline. The position will also require the ability to work on an interdisciplinary team. Experience in prevention policy research or population health approaches is a plus, but not required. We will consider candidates who have accepted tenure-track positions at another institution but with the ability to defer their start date. The position will offer a competitive salary and full-time benefits package.

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis with interviews and final decisions coming in spring 2020, and an expected start date of late spring/early summer 2020. To apply, send CV and cover letter to: [Todd Combs](#) (toddcombs@wustl.edu), copying [Ross Hammond](#) (rhammond@wustl.edu).

Benefits of Washington University in St. Louis:

- Competitive salary and benefits
- Diverse faculty
- Transdisciplinary environment
- Collaboration- and team-focused
- Many opportunities for professional development
- Interest groups, e.g., [SSIG](#) (the Systems Science Interest Group) and [WUNDIR](#) (the Washington University Network for Dissemination & Implementation Research).

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