WELCOME TO ARIZONA

OFFICE OF THE ARIZONA GOVERNOR
STRAEGIC PLANNING & BUDGETING
OUR ROLE
We’re the Governor's Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting (OSPB). We advise the Executive on financial and strategic decision-making for the State of Arizona.

As a highly visible agency at the center of state government, we are responsible for recommending and implementing a $62 billion budget.

Additionally, we advise and work on a wide variety of projects to improve the State.

OUR TEAM
Our team is made up of 24 dynamic and skilled individuals with diverse backgrounds in public administration, business, finance, economics, and information technology. We are passionate about public service and the future of state government.

WHAT WE DO
We’re problem solvers, critical thinkers, and visionary leaders. We utilize quantitative and qualitative skills to analyze issue and make recommendations.

As analysts we do a lot more than just 'crunch numbers'. We work with multiple stakeholders, engage in many important statewide initiatives, and make a real impact through sound fiscal management.
EDUCATION

State agencies: Department of Education; Universities; Division of School Facilities; Arizona Board of Regents; Community Colleges

Recent Projects: Arizona Kids Back On Track Summer Camp Initiatives; Results-Based Funding modernization; promoting school choice; new school construction; tuition scholarships; Arizona Teacher’s Academy

PUBLIC SAFETY

State agencies: Department of Public Safety, Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry; Department of Juvenile Corrections; Courts; Governor’s Office of Homeland Security

Recent Projects: Public safety compensation package; prison deactivation; recidivism reduction efforts; public safety technology, equipment and vehicle investments; border security enhancement

HEALTH AND WELFARE

State agencies: Department of Economic Security; Department of Health Services; Department of Child Safety; Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (the State’s Medicaid agency)

Recent Projects: Medicaid caseload growth; nursing facility projects; Arizona State Hospital operational support and surveillance system; kinship and foster care enhancements; adoption incentives; adult protective services caseload improvement; operational support for new veterans homes

GOVERNMENT THAT WORKS

State agencies: Department of Administration; Department of Transportation; Arizona Commerce Authority

Recent Projects: Cybersecurity preparedness; business one-stop portal; information technology projects; interstate expansion; infrastructure investments; reduction in State footprint; fleet modernization; enterprise compensation strategy; victim services

NATURAL RESOURCES

State agencies: Department of Environmental Quality; State Land Department; Department of Water Resources; Game and Fish Department; Department of Fire and Forestry Management

Recent Projects: Arizona drought contingency; water resilience strategy; ground water management; fire preparedness and suppression; state park enhancements
AS AN ANALYST YOU WILL:

SHAPE FISCAL POLICY
With over 120 State agencies and boards, OSPB analysts interface with agency management to identify problems and provide solutions to the Governor.

PLAN FOR THE FUTURE
OSPB analysts also serve as a consultant to the Governor’s Office on strategic initiatives, providing analytics and research support to help guide State strategy.

BUILD YOUR SKILLS
By recommending data-driven solutions to real world problems and by presenting solutions to the Governor and the Governor’s executive team, OSPB analysts develop the analytic and communication skills necessary to thrive in today’s workforce.

GAIN EXPERTISE AND BUILD A CAREER
Analysts will gain increasing levels of responsibility and can advance their careers in the office. OSPB is also a training ground for leadership roles in state government and business, and former analysts are now agency directors, chief financial officers, and consultants.
REAL IMPACT

BUDGET ANALYST II
Name: Zach Harris
Education: BA Political Science, Kennesaw State University; MPA, University of Georgia
Years at OSPB: 3
Agency Portfolio: 7
Total Value: $3.3 billion

REAL WORK
As the analyst for the Arizona State Parks and Trails (ASPT) as well as the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), I analyze and monitor numerous capital projects. This process involves working hand-in-hand with the agency, as well as my colleagues within the Governor's Office, to understand the fiscal and operational impact of potential projects and ensure that projects underway stay within budget and are completed within the expected time frame.

This year is an exciting time for both agencies. The Governor allocated approximately $100 million from the American Rescue Plan Act to address the wastewater and American Disability Act remediation needs throughout the State’s park system. In addition, the FY 2023 Executive Budget continues the momentum at ASPT by appropriating state monies to renovate multiple historic buildings, improve campgrounds, and implement water conservation technology. For ADOT, the FY 2023 Executive Budget provides a massive investment of $400 million for Interstate 10 (I-10) expansion between Arizona’s two largest cities - Phoenix and Tucson. This segment of I-10 is a vital commerce corridor and this investment will position the State to allow for the entire segment to be three lanes in both directions.

REAL PURPOSE

BUDGET ANALYST II
Name: Susan Nie
Education: BA Business Management, Xi’an Jiaotong University; MPA, University of Georgia
Years at OSPB: 1.5
Agency Portfolio: 4
Total Value: $18.5 billion

REAL WORK
I currently work with Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), which administers Arizona’s Medicaid programs for more than 2 million Arizonans. Because of COVID-19, the federal government enhanced its financial share on each members’ Medicaid costs. However, AHCCCS must maintain coverage for all members during the current public health emergency, regardless of any loss of regular eligibility status. Therefore, during FY 2021 and FY 2022, member growth in this population was significantly higher than usual.

To capture the unknown growth trend and the impact of COVID-19 on FY 2022 estimated enrollment and spending, I extensively reviewed our projections without considering any pandemic related factors, compared the difference between the normal enrollment growth to the actual growth after the public health emergency started, and continuously monitored the policy updates throughout the budget development process to reflect the accurate budgetary assumptions. These analyses led to my projection that the increased spending associated with increased enrollment would be offset by enhanced federal match. So the State would see around $246.5 million General Fund savings in FY2021. With our office approval based on the anticipated savings, AHCCCS has utilized savings to support other essential priorities, such as making additional directed payments to nursing facilities during the pandemic.
GRANTS MANAGEMENT ANALYST II
Name: Perrin Williams
Education: BA Journalism, Georgia State University; MPA, University of Georgia
Years at OSPB: 1.5
Agency Portfolio: 5
Total Value: $6.4 million

REAL WORK
As a grants management analyst, I am involved in a variety of grant programs, ranging from safe elections programs, Arizona Chamber programs, and small business programs. However, most of my grants management portfolio consists of education-related initiatives, including the Education Stabilization Grant Program (ESG). Created in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency, this $370 million education grant program served over 600 local education agencies (LEA's) in the State of Arizona, and was designed to help mitigate the economic impacts of the pandemic, as well as provide financial stability for the 2020-2021 school year.

To prepare for such an extensive program, the grants team partnered with the budget team to create a formula for all allocated award amounts that was dependent on the LEAs’ weighted average daily membership (ADM). Once the award allocation formula was created and reviewed, we were able to create all necessary award documents, including grant agreements and award notification letters, and were able to distribute them to the 600+ LEA's through eCivis, our grants management system. This program helped provide a variety of resources LEA's needed to continue providing the best educational experience for Arizona students.

GRANTS - SYSTEMS MANAGER
Name: Dean Johnson
Education: BS Computer Science, University of Washington
Years at OSPB: 2
Agency Portfolio: 8
Total Value: $1.5 billion

REAL WORK
Beyond managing several specific grant programs, I have the opportunity to work on a number of detailed metric-focused reporting efforts. The recent federal stimulus funds released in response to the COVID-19 pandemic have highlighted the critical role of grants and all the data that is generated. The reporting efforts required range from discovery of relevant data, creating needed technical structures and processes to collect low level data, developing consolidated, connected dashboards all while ensuring a sustainable and auditable environment.
QUALIFICATIONS
We are looking for driven individuals who are problem solvers, analytical thinkers, and great communicators to join our office as budget and grants analysts. Minimum qualifications are a Master's Degree in a related field or a Bachelor's Degree and three to five years of budget experience.

COMPENSATION
Salaries start at $62,000 and are commensurate with experience. Additionally, there are excellent employee benefits, including 21 vacation days per year.

TO APPLY
Interested applicants should email their resume, a cover letter, writing sample, and undergraduate and graduate transcripts to Bill Greeney at bgreeney@az.gov with the subject line, "OSPB (Budget or Grants) Analyst Application." Writing samples should not exceed five pages and may cover any topic. Unofficial copies of transcripts are sufficient.

INTERVIEW PROCESS
Applications are accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis. Upon submission, you will be contacted shortly to acknowledge receipt. We may invite you to participate in an interview and case study (both can be done remotely).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Visit us at: http://www.azospb.gov/employment.aspx
Contact Bill Greeney at bgreeney@az.gov