This role may be located in one of the following locations; Birmingham, Blackpool, Leeds, London, Manchester, Newcastle or Sheffield . Please find further information on the [Corporate hub locations here.](https://careers.dwp.gov.uk/our-locations/)

About the job

**Job summary**

**This role requires you to pass**[**Security Check**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/united-kingdom-security-vetting-clearance-levels/national-security-vetting-clearance-levels#security-check-sc)**clearance. For further information, please see the ‘Selection Process’ section.**

Are you looking for a leadership role where you can use data science to influence, innovate and inspire improvements to government services? Would you love the opportunity to use our wealth of data to inform the customer journey for millions of users?

DWP is the UK's largest government department. We help people into work and make payments worth over £195bn a year to support some of society’s most vulnerable people.

We're using fresh ideas to drive a once-in-a-generation transformation of government services, creating innovative, scalable, and user-centric digital solutions. Join us as a Senior Data Scientist and help us get this right.

You’ll apply data science to drive critical public service transformation and influence choices on issues that affect millions of UK citizens.

If you have used a variety of programming languages or data science techniques to harness the power of data and think that data science can transform how government services work, we’d love to hear from you.

DWP Digital is a great place to work, learn and grow your career. We provide comprehensive training and a collaborative environment that encourages continuous professional development.

Please Note – due to the size and location of the team you’ll be required to regularly travel to the Leeds, London, and Manchester Hub.

**Job description**

Joining the Universal Credit (UC) team, you’ll apply data science on a massive scale and help influence outcomes that affect millions of UK citizens.

UC Data Scientists are part of multidisciplinary development teams that design and deliver new features for the Universal Credit digital service. We use our expertise in datasets and data science techniques to ensure the development of the service is supported by data, helping to improve outcomes for UC claimants and DWP staff.

UC Data Scientists collaborate with colleagues from a range of different digital professions to promote the use of data. Your primary stakeholders will include the Design & Build and Strategy teams that support the Universal Credit programme, but you’ll also work closely with members of the Data Practice across DWP.

Data Science requests include feature discovery & prioritisation, hypothesis testing, trial & feature evaluation, natural language processing & machine learning, and success measures. You’ll also lead the delivery of cross-cutting Data Science projects, aiming to develop our technical capabilities in areas such as machine learning, visualisation, and experimentation.

Technical leadership and capability development are extremely important in this role. You’ll have a collaborative mindset and be keen to share your knowledge to support the development of junior data scientists’ skills.

**Person specification**

The selection criteria are outlined in the selection process details below.  
  
If you would like to learn more about the role, please contact Caicy.Sandford1@dwp.gov.uk.

**Technical skills**

We'll assess you against these technical skills during the selection process:

* Describe a time you delivered a data-driven solution to solve a business problem or improve an established process.

Benefits

• An employer pension contribution of up to 28.97% [For further information please click here.](https://www.civilservicepensionscheme.org.uk/joining-the-pension-scheme/members-like-me/)  
• Annual leave rising up to 30 days, (based on your working pattern).  
• Family friendly flexible working arrangements, such as hybrid working, job sharing, term-time working, flexi-time and compressed hours.  
• Learning and development tailored to your role this could include industry recognised qualifications, coaching and mentoring.   
• An inclusive and diverse environment with opportunities to join staff networks including: Women’s Network, National Race Network, National Disability Network (THRIVE) and many more.

**Salary Information**  
  
Pay for this role in National locations is from £52,412 to £63,517.  
  
The maximum salary for the grade is £63,517, however a Digital Allowance of up to £9,829 per annum is available for exceptional candidates, based on our assessment of your skills and experience.

Pay for this role in London is from £57,631 to £68,918.  
  
The maximum salary for the grade is £68,918, however a Digital Allowance of up to £4,428 per annum is available for exceptional candidates, based on our assessment of your skills and experience.  
  
Our offer to successful candidates will be based on an assessment of your skills and experience as demonstrated at interview.  
  
Existing Civil Servants who secure a new role on lateral transfer should maintain their current salary.  
  
Existing Civil Servants who gain promotion may move to the bottom of the next grade pay scale or 10% increase in salary whichever would be the greater.

Things you need to know

**Selection process details**

This vacancy is using [Success Profiles (opens in a new window)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/success-profiles), and will assess your Experience and Technical skills.

**Stage 1: Application**  
  
Your application will consist of three parts:  
  
1. A Personal Details application form.  
  
2. Your employment history. Please copy this information into the text box provided. When giving details in your employment history you should highlight your experience in line with the essential criteria point listed below.

• Academic background in Data Science, Maths, Statistics or Computer Science and/or equivalent Data Science-related experience.

3. Technical statement (up to 250 words):

• Describe a time you delivered a data-driven solution to solve a business problem or improve an established process.

Further details around what this will entail are listed on the application form.

Please use the STAR (Situation, Task, Action, Result) approach to answer this question.

An initial sift will be conducted using the technical statement. Candidates who pass the initial sift will be progressed to a full sift. The sift panel will use the information in your employment history to assess your experience, skills and knowledge against the essential criteria point mentioned above.

For Hints and Tips on completing your application visit [Applying for jobs at DWP Digital.](https://careers.dwp.gov.uk/how-we-recruit/)

**Important Information**  
  
• You will be asked to complete your employment history any information that you would customarily share on a CV should therefore be entered onto the application form.  
• Personal details that could be used to identify you including your name, contact details and address must be removed for your application to be considered.  
• **If your employment history or technical statement contains any personal details your application will be withdrawn.**

**Stage 2: Interview**  
  
If you’re successful at sift stage you will be invited to a video interview via Microsoft Teams. There, you will be assessed against the experiences listed in the **Essential Criteria**below.

• Hands-on experience delivering innovative, data-driven solutions to solve business problems or improve established processes.

• Strong stakeholder management skills and experience working with colleagues to understand their requirements and deliver complex analytical projects in a timely manner.

• Being proactive in recognising opportunities to use Data Science to contribute to team or wider organisational priorities.

• Ability to communicate results to a range of audiences, translating technical concepts into non-technical language where necessary.

• Understanding of a range of data science techniques and the ability to apply these to practical situations.

• Ability to explore, combine and transform data from across disparate sources, writing code in appropriate technologies that is testable and scalable.

• Experience writing code in R, Python or SQL.

You will be asked to do a 10 minutes presentation on a specific topic and a 5 minutes technical test as part of your interview. Further details will be provided to candidates invited to interview.

Interviews will take place from late-August 2024. Interview dates to be confirmed.