

Dear Hiring Committee,

My name is Suzanne Thornton. After teaching college-level statistics for the past few years, I am looking forward to orienting the next chapter of my career towards statistical practice. I have found that I am most motivated and content when I can apply statistical theory and programming to solve real-world problems. I am writing to apply for the Senior Data Scientist position for the Financial Planning & Analysis team to begin a career of practice where I can put my strong theoretical statistical knowledge to use.

Since beginning my work as a statistics faculty member in 2019, my professional expertise has mainly revolved around my work as an educator and as a published statistical researcher. As an educator, I strive to make my lessons accessible and teach statistical practice as a language for understanding science that works best when it is used responsibly and ethically. All of my course content is publicly available on my personal website and I take every opportunity to communicate lessons about data and statistical literacy to audiences beyond my own classroom. As a statistical researcher, I have several technical publications involving theoretical and computational statistical developments as well as many non-technical publications on issues relevant to my discipline. I am a skilled statistical programmer (mainly working with R) and have self-taught myself various data science skills (e.g. SQL, Git) in preparation for my new career path. I am confident in my ability to quickly learn to work with artificial intelligence software even though this is not something I have experience with yet.

My statistical expertise includes supervised machine learning techniques (e.g. regression, classification) and I am familiar with unsupervised learning techniques including clustering and dimension reduction. I have worked with data from a variety of applications including medical sciences, clock sciences, and chemistry. This variety in applied experience makes me confident in my ability to work with financial reporting and analysis data as well.

I am excited about the opportunity to begin a career at Deloitte. Please let me know if you have any additional questions for me and feel free to view my professional website (link below) for additional information. I am actively searching for fulfilling full-time career opportunities and I hope to begin my new job by the end of the calendar year. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Thornton, PhD

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