HARRIS ▪ RAND ▪ LUSK

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**Citizens Budget Commission**

**Vice President for Research**

**Job Description**

**Background:**

The Citizens Budget Commission of New York (“CBC”) is a well-respected nonprofit civic organization founded during the Great Depression to conduct research on New York City’s (and later to include the state’s) finances and government management, and provide reports and recommend improvements to municipal officials. Since its beginning and continuing through today, this fiscal watchdog has been an important source of unbiased information for government leaders regarding budgeting and financial management and has had significant and continuing positive impact on public policy. CBC champions strong fiscal management, rational tax policies, and balanced budgets to improve New York’s economic competitiveness and is proud of being a catalyst for positive change in such areas as government finance, education, transportation and economic development. CBC has a strong reputation for independent and objective research and what CBC says on key issues matters to New York’s leaders.

Because research is at the core of its mission and its success, CBC must have a highly intelligent, skilled, and respected professional to manage its research program. As such, with the recent announcement that its longtime, well-known and esteemed VP of Research will be ‘retiring’ (remaining with the organization as an *emeritus* working on special projects*)*, CBC is seeking a top-notch research professional with high level writing and editing skills and the gravitas to provide the public with the confidence in CBC’s work to become its next Vice President for Research.

**The Position:**

Reporting to the President of CBC, the Vice President for Research ("VP”) will oversee and direct its research program, including managing the staff of eight full time researchers, interns from local graduate schools, and ad hoc consultants. Priority is given to projects that assess the fiscal impacts of state and city policies, particularly proposals made during the budget cycle, and subject areas not given sufficient attention by other organizations, including public sector labor relations and debt policy. Publications include reports, policy briefs, and blog entries on the CBC website and typically provide recommendations for improving the efficiency and cost effectiveness of government programs and operations. Advocacy for those recommendations include op-eds, media interviews, testimony at public hearings, and panel discussions.

The ideal candidate will handle complex situations and multiple responsibilities simultaneously, mixing long-term projects with the urgency of immediate demands. He/she must also have the demonstrated ability to deal with confidential information and act as a liaison between the organization and other constituencies, particularly the high level technical people involved in government finance positions as well as private sector leaders. He/she must exhibit the skills to collaborate with and achieve actionable results through others, the ability to supervise and mentor junior staff, build strong and sustainable relationships and the capability to interact within all levels of the organization.

The VP must be a highly intelligent self-starter who shares the President’s and the Board’s commitment to the agency’s core mission. Under the direction of the President, this individual must be able to clearly articulate CBC’s purpose and objectives to the business, government and nonprofit communities, as well as the public. He or she should demonstrate significant accomplishments and past successes, be hands-on, a strategic thinker, planner and problem solver. Excellent communication skills are critical*.* He or she must be able to work closely and collegially with the active and engaged Board as well as with an experienced and committed staff.

**Qualifications:**

The desired qualifications are:

* Appropriate education credentials and research skills (including work with economic and statistical data) with a preference for those with a doctorate in a relevant field;
* A record of accomplishment in producing clear policy-oriented research reports;
* Familiarity with government institutions as well as budgetary and financial management practices;
* Creativity in approaching public policy problems; and
* A commitment to promoting accountable and efficient government.

Salary will be commensurate with experience. For more information on the Citizens Budget Commission, please visit its website at [www.cbcny.org](http://www.cbcny.org)

**To Apply:**

CBC has retained the services of Harris Rand Lusk to conduct this search. Inquiries, nominations, and applications may be directed in confidence to:

Jack Lusk, Founder and CEO or

Anne McCarthy, Senior Director and COO

Harris Rand Lusk

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*Please put ”CBC Research” in the subject line of your emailed application*