

RESEARCHER

SALARY RANGE: \$40,000 - \$65,000

FLSA: Exempt

LOCATION: Boston, MA

CONTACT: jobs@naca.com

BENEFITS: Excellent single/family health, vision and dental PPO, 75% employer contribution and 401(k)

POSITION SUMMARY:

With more than 25 years of service directly on the front lines of the battle for economic justice, the Neighborhood Assistance Corporation of America (NACA) fights on behalf of working people against the subprime and predatory banking industry, and ensures that its members are able to build strong, stable neighborhoods through affordable homeownership in urban and rural areas nationwide. NACA has a tremendous track record of success assisting hundreds of thousands of homeowners and homebuyers and has over two million members. In keeping with its deep roots in advocacy, NACA now looks to grow its Boston-based headquarters team and become an even greater force in the future, both at the state and national political levels. NACA is also growing its local offices nationwide and adding additional ones to significantly increase the number of people and communities it serves with its extraordinary mortgage programs.

NACA seeks to hire experienced and creative researchers to do research in support of its advocacy efforts and exposing aspects of the existing “Predatory Economy”. NACA has a rich history of effecting transformative change in homeownership and ethical and just bank lending practices through advocacy and direct action, and the researchers will help build on that record of success to drive lasting, structural change on issues of economic justice by identifying and uncovering information that will help mobilize communities across the country. The researchers support NACA’s community organizers, communications staff, members, supporters, and others with ongoing research that supports local and national issues.

NACA’s campaigns and advocacy efforts involve extensive research, targeted litigation, regulatory advocacy, legislative and ballot initiatives, and demonstrations and actions targeted against individuals, corporations, and government entities that are on the wrong side of fair lending and economic justice issues. NACA’s advocacy approach is based on confrontational, aggressive direct action to confront the CEOs and decision makers where they live and socialize. Timely, effective research is crucial to the success of these campaigns, by providing the factual “ammunition” for effective advocacy. Strong research has positioned NACA as a go-to source for media and others wanting credible, accurate information on companies, individuals, and issues. Researchers generate information and data on corporations, industry, government entities, and individuals. They focus on in-depth, tactical research to be used directly and immediately in exposés and campaigns, rather than research papers and studies. Much of the research will involve detailed investigations of individuals, including corporate executives, politicians, and others who make decisions that personally impact our Members and the lives of working people. The department will conduct background research into legal and regulatory issues, legislation, and other business and governmental subjects. In addition, researchers will organize NACA’s extensive amount of documents obtained over the past thirty years and do interviews with decision makers to develop manuscripts on NACA’s campaigns and history.

JOB QUALIFICATIONS:

NACA seeks researchers with a personal and professional commitment to social and economic justice, strong work ethic, relentless pursuit of success, an open attitude and comfort pushing forward in ambiguous and uncertain situations are essential. The ideal candidate will have at least a BA or BS degree (though an advanced degree is preferred) and experience in the field of corporate campaign research, academic research, investigations and/or financial analysis. S/he is expected to have all or many of the following personal characteristics and professional experiences:

- Experienced with corporate campaign research, investigations, and/or financial analysis and with a proven record of using strategic research for accomplishing campaign objectives and results.
- Detail oriented, well organized, ability to work under pressure, ability to work independently with only general supervision and be adaptable with being receptive to change.
- Experience using strategic research for accomplishing campaign objectives and targeting solutions to problems with a proven ability to create strategic research products that are concise, targeted, and bold.
- Understanding of print, broadcast, and online media and the intersection between research, media, and policy.
- Demonstrable focus, resilience, and the problem-solving skill to develop solutions under challenging circumstances. The judgment, maturity, and savvy to meet aggressive deadlines and ambitious goals.
- Highly developed interpersonal skills, tenacity, and emotional intelligence, including a demonstrated ability to work in a fast-paced and continually shifting environment.
- Skilled communicator with impeccable writing skills as well as an ability to synthesize and translate complicated information into clear, compelling language.
- Keen analytical skills, including the ability to think critically, make decisions, and justify recommendations based on data and analysis. Willingness to think entrepreneurially and creatively where necessary for success.
- Have enthusiasm for a determination to achieve NACA's mission of community advocacy and economic justice. A willingness and commitment to participate in NACA's aggressive advocacy, campaigns and activities.
- The willingness and ability to work long hours including evenings and weekends. Some national travel is expected.

TIME DEMANDS:

Researchers must be able to meet the demands of the job that consists of 50+ hours a week. This is a demanding position requiring dedication and the willingness and ability to work long hours including evenings and weekends. Some national travel is expected.

COMPENSATION:

Given the supervisory and other responsibilities, this is an exempt position. The base pay is between \$40,000 and \$65,000 depending on the responsibilities, experience, skills of the candidate, and other factors.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS:

- Bachelor's degree – Required.
- Graduate Degree – Preferred.
- Training and certifications that demonstrate important knowledge and credentials - Preferred.

HISTORY AND OVERVIEW:

NACA (naca.com), is one of the most exciting organizations in the country. NACA is a national non-profit homeownership, HUD-certified housing counseling and community advocacy organization. We are a

high-profile organization whose affordable mortgage programs and community advocacy are frequently featured in the national, international and local media. NACA is the largest and most effective housing services organization in the country and is rapidly growing with 40+ offices nationwide and a counseling center in Charlotte. We are hiring many additional staff for existing and new offices nationwide, local organizers, and directors based in the Boston corporate office. NACA is the premier homeownership and advocacy organization that is both respected and feared. As a result of NACA's large and growing membership nationwide, NACA is now increasingly focused on harnessing its power to demand economic justice for all.

Started in 1988, NACA has a strong track-record of successful advocacy against predatory and discriminatory lenders. NACA's success is a result of its aggressive, confrontational advocacy. We have taken on campaigns against some of the country's most powerful companies and individuals and won. NACA has revolutionized mortgage lending with its mortgage programs and advocacy. NACA continues its aggressive advocacy for working people and communities in the fight for economic justice and affordable homeownership for all. In addition to affordable homeownership, this includes taking on issues such as student debt, tax equity, voter access and other economic justice issues.

In addition to its advocacy efforts, NACA has established the national standard for homeownership programs. NACA's industry-leading programs include:

- **Purchase** – For homebuyers who will be owner-occupants, the Purchase Program makes the right to affordable homeownership a reality for homebuyers. By basing its mortgage underwriting criteria on homebuyers' overall circumstances and not on traditional risk-based pricing or credit scores, NACA provides broad access to its best-in-class mortgage –a mortgage with no down payment, no closing costs, no fees, no requirement for perfect credit and always at a below-market, fixed interest rate. NACA has \$13 billion in mortgage commitments from the country's largest lenders to support this program.
- **Renovations** – For Purchase Program homebuyers whose property is in need of repairs, NACA's Home and Neighborhood Development ("HAND") department assists them throughout the repair and renovation process.
- **Homeowner Assistance** – For Purchase Program homeowners who experience financial difficulties, NACA's Membership Assistance Program ("MAP") provides services including mortgage modifications, payment agreements and financial assistance to help avoid foreclosure.
- **Home Save** – For homeowners with an unaffordable mortgage, NACA is the largest and most effective program in providing affordable solutions to over 250,000 at-risk homeowners nationwide. NACA has been able to restructure unaffordable mortgages by permanently reducing interest rates and reducing outstanding principle balances to achieve affordable mortgage payments.

For more information about NACA and its history and programs, visit www.naca.com.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Applicants must complete the application at www.naca.com.

NACA is an equal opportunity employer. Minority and bilingual individuals, particularly those who speak and write in Spanish, are strongly encouraged to apply.

To follow-up and for inquiries regarding this and other positions contact NACA's HR Department at jobs@naca.com or call Rafael Ramirez at 888-297-5568 ext. 1215.

This job description is solely for descriptive purposes and the responsibilities may change. It does not constitute a contract for employment, and all employment at NACA is at-will.