

## **Simply Secure Program Director, job posting**

Simply Secure is a very new effort, looking to *improve the usability of privacy and security tools*.

Our goal is to work with existing software development teams to improve the usability of the tools they are building. We want to take what's there, find what works, and make it better. We are specifically looking at tools that provide security and privacy "on top" of cloud services. Our aim is to develop public methodologies, shared knowledge, and community resources that will help all projects in this space to be usable *and* secure. This means working with both developers and users to test our assumptions, documenting practical guidelines and portable resources, and helping others learn from our experiences. [More information on the initiative is available here.](#)

While only just begun, this effort already boasts an exceptional advisory board and deep connections across industry, academic institutions, and independent development efforts. It has also received significant seed funding from founding partners such as Google and the Open Technology Fund. We now need a leader to build it.

By "a leader" we mean our first hire and the person who will grow this global initiative.

### **Core duties:**

- **Found, lead, and build a lasting and dynamic global initiative**
  - Benefitting from the guidance of the Advisory Board, independently work to build out a global initiative. We are looking for someone who will embrace flexibility and freedom yet prioritize practical and creative approaches.
  - Ensure that the project is set up to receive funding and support as soon as possible. Manage initial financial logistics, and participate in defining long-term financial structure.
  - Draw on existing contacts -- yours and others' -- to iteratively grow and solidify the project and its reach.
  - Participate in recruiting and hiring decisions, as needed.
  
- **Develop and deliver on project goals**
  - Work with users, developers, designers, academics, and others to scope, iterate, and deliver clearly-specified improvements to user experience for specified projects and partners.
  - Select and vet complementary efforts that the initiative can support and engage with.
  - Work with security experts, academics, users, and partners to instantiate and manage transparent security and UX audits.
  
- **Develop and represent the project voice**
  - Communicate publicly on behalf of the initiative.
  - Attend and speak at conferences, other venues and scenarios representing the initiative, its output and goals.
  - As warranted, work with others to develop project collateral -- web sites, resources, social media, etc.

### **Required skills:**

- Strongly “Technologically and cryptographically conversant” -- able to speak to the project goals and clearly explain and defend technical decisions. This does not necessarily require a classically trained “technical background,” or skills in cryptography. We are looking for someone who can understand conceptually and communicate clearly to the layperson.
- A clear and intuitive understanding of the problem space, and a passion for finding solutions.
- Great verbal and written skills, and the ability to context-switch between vastly different audiences, communicating seamlessly with all.
- A proven ability to deliver results.
  - What have you built? What have you designed? What product strategies have you developed? What pivots have you ably made to achieve success? What else?
- An inclusive mindset that aims not to replicate existing processes, but to develop new and better methods of achieving better ends.
- A passion for engaging with users, and the capacity to put their needs and preferences at the core of development.
- Close connections with existing developer communities and open-source efforts strongly preferred -- anything that would provide working knowledge of the space you’ll be entering.

**Education and experience:**

- Education doesn’t matter, as long as you have a clear list of successes in this space. We’re looking for experience and acumen.
- Experience managing a team or organization, in addition to a strong list of successes showing that you will be suited to building and growing a lasting global initiative from the ground up.

**Compensation:** Commensurate with experience

**Start date:** As soon as you’re able.

**Location:** Flexible, to be discussed during interviews.

**How to apply:** Send a CV, a brief statement about why you want this role, and anything else you think applicable to the effort’s interim lead, Meredith Whittaker, at [lead.simply.secure@gmail.com](mailto:lead.simply.secure@gmail.com). If you have other contacts affiliated with the initiative (e.g. an Advisory Board member passed you this job description) feel free to CC them as well. Meredith will work with the Advisory Board to schedule interviews and answer questions.