U.S. Census Bureau
Dissertation Fellowship Program

The U.S. Census Bureau's mission is to collect and provide timely, relevant, and quality data about the people, places, and economy of the United States. Over 200 years ago, the United States Constitution laid the foundation for what is today one of the world's largest and most comprehensive data-gathering organizations. Every month, quarter, and year, the Census Bureau plans, implements, and evaluates over 100 sample surveys that update and add to information from the economic census (taken every 5 years) and the population census (taken every 10 years)—information that mirrors the concerns of the country. These data collection efforts would be impossible to conduct without continuous research and development.

The Census Bureau Dissertation Fellowship Program

This program seeks to award a limited number of contracts each year to Ph.D. -granting accredited institutions of higher education in the United States to fund the dissertation research of doctoral candidates who propose and investigate solutions to problems of primary interest to the Census Bureau. The U.S. Census Bureau offers extraordinary opportunities for research that relates to the planning, collection, processing, analysis, making inferences, and disseminating data and data products that draw on deep knowledge and skills from statisical theory and methodology, survey methodology, statistical computing, computer science, economics, demography, and social and behavioral science applicable to censuses, large scale sample surveys, and other data sources (e.g., administrative data and big data). The application materials and supporting documents for each Dissertation Fellow must be submitted by his or her university. Dissertation Fellowships will be awarded to institutions of higher education for doctoral candidates of unusual promise and ability whose general fields of research relate to statistics, survey measurement, computing, economics, and demography. Direct connections to research topics that relate to the planning, collection, processing, analysis, making inferences, and disseminating data and data products is essential. Exceptionally strong candidates writing master's theses that address these research topics will also be considered.

Conditions of Dissertation Fellow Appointment

A Dissertation Fellow must
- be a doctoral candidate or exceptionally strong master's candidate.
- be funded by a contract awarded to institution for tuition, research materials, travel, and salary.
- devote full-time effort, be enrolled full-time, and in residence at Fellow's Institution.
- report progress biannually.
- collaborate on-site with Census Bureau staff for a short period.
- present research results in a Census Bureau seminar.
- be a citizen of the United States.

Tenure

One year with possible extension up to one year.

Dissertation Proposal

Include title, abstract, specific problem(s) being studied, approach, expected results, relevant bibliography, and name and position of faculty advisor (5-page limit and double spaced).

Application Package

- *A cover letter from institution,* typically from the department chair of the doctoral candidate being proposed for a Dissertation Fellowship.
- *Dissertation proposal* of doctoral candidate.
- *A curriculum vitae and transcripts* of the doctoral candidate (names of all institutions attended, years attended, degrees received; list of any honors, awards, fellowships, employment, publications, and contact information).
- *A curriculum vitae* of the faculty advisor.
- *Signed statement* from faculty advisor and department chair confirming applicant is a doctoral candidate.

Deadline

Application package and supporting documents should be submitted by February 28.

Clarifications and Questions

Contact: **Dr. Tommy Wright**
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One electronic copy to:
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