

Pre-Doctoral Research Fellow – Amy Finkelstein

Job Description:

MIT Professor Amy Finkelstein is looking to hire highly skilled and motivated full-time pre-doctoral research fellows to begin in the summer or fall of 2021 and to work for two years as part of her research team. The position will entail close collaboration and assistance with all stages of empirical research in health economics.

Examples of the types of projects fellows would work on include understanding the causes and consequences of large-scale geographic variation in healthcare spending and health (see e.g. <http://economics.mit.edu/files/11525> and <https://economics.mit.edu/files/15241>), the impact of payment policies for hospitals and implications for optimal policy design (e.g. <https://economics.mit.edu/files/16464> and <http://web.stanford.edu/~leinav/wp/CJR.pdf>), and analysis of health care policy design more generally (see e.g. <http://web.stanford.edu/~leinav/wp/LTCH2.pdf> or <https://economics.mit.edu/files/20062>).

Qualifications

The ideal candidate will have the following qualifications:

- Strong quantitative background
- Strong computer skills including programming
- Ability to work independently
- Excellent communication skills, both in writing and orally
- Long-term interest in pursuing a PhD in economics
- Background in economics a plus, but not necessary (Professor Finkelstein welcomes candidates with strong technical backgrounds who are looking for more exposure to economics.)
- Prior research assistant experience strongly preferred
- Excellent grades required

The job is ideal for someone with an enthusiasm for empirical research using a wide range of methods, and the ability and interest to learn new skills and take initiative as a project develops.

Professor Finkelstein welcomes applicants from diverse backgrounds, particularly women, people of color and other marginalized communities which have historically been underrepresented in the field of economics.

Note: This position is based in Cambridge, MA, with remote work required due to the COVID-19 crisis. Authorization for work in the US is required.

Compensation and Benefits

As an employee of MIT, this position offers competitive compensation and generous benefits, including an annual tuition reimbursement of more than \$5,000, discounted commuter benefits, management and technical skills development, and comprehensive health, dental, and life insurance plans. For more information on MIT's benefits, please click [here](http://hrweb.mit.edu/benefits). (<http://hrweb.mit.edu/benefits>)

How to Apply

- Please apply to job ID #18915 on [MIT's Careers Website](#).
- Online job application should include (uploaded as one PDF):
 - A cover letter that includes:
 - A brief description of your experience as a research assistant and with any independent research (e.g. thesis or other research projects)
 - A description of your familiarity with various statistical and computer packages (e.g. STATA, SAS, Matlab, Python, Perl etc.)
 - The names of two references (and their email and phone contact information) who will be providing written references. At least one reference must be someone for whom you have worked as a research assistant. Please indicate which references you have worked for as a research assistant.
 - A current CV
 - A transcript (unofficial is fine).
 - A condensed transcript. Please provide a written list of classes on the transcript that are in economics, mathematics, statistics or computer science. For each please include columns for the name of the course, the date taken, the school at which the course was taken, and the main textbook(s) used in the course. Please include any courses you are currently taking.
 - The date on which you are available to start work.
- In addition to the online application, please ask your references (2) to send a written letter of recommendation to Professor Finkelstein's attention to the following email address:
aecabral@mit.edu.

Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis. Short-listed applicants will be asked to complete a technical exercise and may be called for an interview.