

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT – PREDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

The Rodney L. White Center for Financial Research at the Wharton School is seeking a pre-doctoral research associate to support quantitative research in financial economics. The research associate will work closely with Finance Professors William Diamond, Karen K. Lewis, and Yao Zeng.

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES

Job responsibilities include performing identifying and obtaining collecting financial data from a variety of sources; cleaning and compiling a data set from these sources, and performing statistical and econometric modeling and analyses; inferring interest rates from a large data set of option prices and using this to understand the impacts of monetary policy; analyzing a dataset of trades and holdings of collateralized loan obligations; writing research reports, conducting background research and literature reviews, and proof-reading research papers and presentations. Independent thinking, an understanding of financial economics or related disciplines, and self-motivation are highly valued in performing these functions.

A successful pre-doctoral research associate will work in this challenging position for 1-2 years, possess a strong desire to expand and deepen skills in research and quantitative data analysis, and emerge prepared to apply for PhD programs in Economics or Finance. Research Associates will be encouraged to be an active part of the Wharton research community, which can include attending seminars, exploring personal research interests, and taking graduate-level classes at Wharton. The Research Associate will join a cohort of pre-doctoral Research Associates both in the Finance Department and across other departments at the Wharton School.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- BA/BS in Economics, Finance, Statistics, or a related discipline and 1 to 2 years of research experience (potentially done while completing a Bachelor's Degree).
- Research experience should include conducting independent research using statistical software such as STATA, Matlab, Mathematica, SAS or R. Additional coding skills would be valued but not required.
- The ability to analyze data, derive proofs, and write reports.
- He/she should be self-directed, intrinsically motivated and have the capacity to manage work independently.
- An interest in financial intermediation and/or the impact of central banks on financial markets.

SALARY & BENEFITS

This is a full-time position based in Philadelphia (remote work from elsewhere in the U.S. may be possible for a temporary period), starting on **July 1, 2021**. This position is eligible for full Penn vacation and sick leave accrual. Annual salary is within the range of \$45,000-50,000 plus benefits. For information on the comprehensive benefits package offered by the University visit: <https://www.hr.upenn.edu/PennHR/benefits-pay>

HOW TO APPLY

To submit a complete application, please prepare a cover letter explaining your interest in the position, a resume, and an academic transcript, and submit these on-line on [this website.](#)

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until the position is filled.

Penn adheres to a policy that prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, creed, national or ethnic origin, citizenship status, age, disability, veteran status, or any other legally protected class. The University of Pennsylvania values diversity and seeks talented students, faculty, and staff from diverse backgrounds. The University of Pennsylvania is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer. Women, minority candidates, veterans and individuals with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply.

ABOUT THE RODNEY L. WHITE CENTER

The Wharton School's Rodney L. White Center for Financial Research is one of the oldest financial research centers in the United States. Founded in 1969 through a grant from Oppenheimer & Company in honor of its late partner, Rodney L. White, WG'57 the Center's mission is to promote innovative empirical and theoretical research in financial economics, spanning the financial research interests of the Finance Department faculty and PhD students, and those in other related Departments.

Ways by which the Center fosters and promotes new and relevant financial research include a weekly seminar series; pre-doctoral research associate and undergraduate research scholar programs; events such as an annual conference and PhD summer school; and a monthly research newsletter that highlights the latest research submitted to the Center's working paper series.