Research Assistant

POSITION SUMMARY

Professor Bruce D. Meyer, the McCormick Foundation Professor at the University of Chicago's Harris School, is looking to hire several full-time pre-doctoral fellows for the current academic year (2017-18) and beyond. The goal is to support and collaborate on a series of new research projects preparing and using groundbreaking data on income, program participation, and consumption from linked administrative and survey sources. These projects include, but are not limited to:

1. Constructing new and more accurate measures of the income distribution, poverty, inequality, and mobility from administrative tax and welfare data and surveys,
2. Investigating and simulating the effects of government tax and transfer programs,
3. Assessing the accuracy of government surveys.

Fellows will be part of a research team that will analyze and document these "big data", construct novel statistical models, and prepare presentations and manuscripts. Ideal candidates will seek to co-author papers intended for ultimate publication. Fellows will also have opportunities to interact with a number of collaborators on these projects in academia and in government agencies and think tanks. This should be a valuable experience for individuals hoping to eventually attend top Ph.D. programs or start careers in economics or statistics.

Positions are available in both Washington, DC and Chicago. To apply, please:

1. Upload your resume, cover letter, transcripts, and a writing sample here,
2. Submit an application through UChicago's formal portal (requisition number: 103779).

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE
- Bachelor's Degree in Economics, Statistics or related disciplines required
- Previous research experience strongly preferred
- Proficiency in Stata required; ability to use other statistical software packages (e.g., SAS, R, Python) strongly preferred
- Significant coursework or experience in programming strongly preferred

COMPETENCIES AND SKILLS
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- High attention-to-detail and quality in data analysis and written material required
- Knowledge of statistics or empirical economics research required
- Flexibility in working within a growing organization
- Demonstrated ability to review and prioritize work independently and effectively
- Demonstrated ability to be resourceful and creative in problem-solving