

Yale *Tobin Center* *for Economic Policy*

Pre-Doctoral Fellowship

Professors Judy Chevalier and Kevin Williams, Yale University

Judy Chevalier and Kevin Williams at the Tobin Center for Economic Policy at Yale University are seeking to recruit one highly skilled and motivated individual to join the Pre-doctoral Fellowship program.

The prospective pre-doctoral fellow will work on projects studying the retail apocalypse, or the recent trend of mass brick-and-mortar retail exits in the United States. The pre-doctoral fellow will work with unique location data that tracks the establishment choice and duration of shopping spells for millions of individuals in the United States. This is a big data project – the full sample contains hundreds of billions of observations. Sample tasks the candidate will perform are: What is the average distance an individual travels to reach her retail opportunities; How do individuals combine visits to multiple establishments (trip chaining); Do consumers travel farther to access retail opportunities after local stores exit; Are retail deserts growing?

During the one or two-year fellowship, the successful candidate will develop her/his own research agenda under the supervision of Professors Chevalier and Williams at the Yale School of Management. The pre-doctoral fellow will join a small group of research assistants dedicated to faculty at the Yale SOM, but the candidate will also have access and support to all the resources of the Tobin Center.

This position is intended to provide training in the field of economics research to prepare a candidate for doctoral studies in graduate school. This position presents an opportunity for recent graduates to begin training for a career in research and will serve as a stepping stone to doctoral studies.

Requirements: Successful candidates should have a well-demonstrated interest in applied microeconomic research, strong communication skills, and must be proficient in SQL and Python or R. Applicants must have completed a bachelor's or master's degree.

Special Application Instructions: Applicants interested in this position should include TWO coding samples in their application file. The first must be a SQL program and the second can either be in Python or R. As part of the application review process, finalists will also be asked to complete a training exercise.

Application: Please visit <https://tobin.yale.edu/tobin-predoctoral-fellows> to apply.

For further information, please contact Kevin Williams (kevin.williams@yale.edu)

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