

My name is Decory Edwards and I am going into the 5th year of the Economics PhD program at Johns Hopkins. If selected for the dissertation fellowship at the Boston FED, I am available to start in early September.

My primary motivation for applying for this position is that I would like to learn from and interact with more economists in the central bank setting. During the third year of my PhD, I completed a year-long internship at the Federal Reserve Board. In that position, I used a combination of Dynare and Matlab to study a DSGE model allow for climate change under the representative agent assumption. At the time, I was working with the theory group at Hopkins and was unsure about which subfield I should focus my dissertation on. Because of this, and the fact that I did the internship remotely and concurrently with my courses, I did not get as much out of the internship as I wanted at the time.

Since then, I have focused my research agenda for the rest of my time at Hopkins on heterogenous agent macroeconomics. My dissertation advisor, Chris Carroll, is the lead researcher of the econ-ark project, which features a toolkit (HARK) dedicated to solving and simulating these types of models. The toolkit is written in python, and I've developed my coding skills significantly since the last time I was an intern.

In my time during this internship, I hope to work on my job market paper which utilizes the aforementioned HARK toolkit to develop a consumption-savings model of ex-ante heterogeneity in the rate of return to asset holdings. Additionally, a highly desirable outcome for myself, if I were selected for the position, would be that I worked for or with a department economist(s) at your institution with the hopes that I could develop a research question to explore for a different chapter of my dissertation.