**Call for Proposals for the Economics Summer Research Fellowship**

Date: 1/28/2025

The annual summer fellowship in economics gives one undergraduate economics student (major or minor) the opportunity to engage in independent research with a Tenured or Tenure Track faculty member in the department of economics. To apply, students must first work with a sponsoring faculty member to identify a research project. The research project may be jointly decided by the faculty member and the student or may be proposed by the student in consultation with, and approval of, the faculty mentor.

The program runs for **10 weeks** in the summer. Students gain valuable experience while engaged in research in their discipline while faculty obtain assistance with their work and the pleasure of working directly with students. All Research Fellows will be expected to meet with the faculty member at least weekly during these 10 weeks and will receive a stipend of $8,000 (+ a discount on board at Loyola during the summer).

Upon completion, students will (1) present their research in the economics department seminar and (2) present their research at either the undergraduate research colloquium or a local economics conference (such as the Eastern Economic Association conference) during the following AY. Additionally, depending on the outcome of their research and with guidance from the faculty mentor, students will be encouraged to submit their co-authored research to an academic journal.

**Expectations of a Research Fellow Candidate:**

To enrich and complete this experience, you are required to:

1. Identify a sponsoring faculty member and a research project.
2. Apply and be selected as a Fellow (application process provided below).
3. Conduct the research with the faculty mentor within a 10-week period.
4. Deliver a presentation on your project at the economics brown bag seminar during the fall semester immediately following the summer in which the fellowship occurred.
5. Participate in either the undergraduate research colloquium or an academic conference approved by the faculty mentor during the following AY.
6. Submit electronic copies of your presentation and paper to the chair of the economics department during the following AY (within a deadline deemed appropriate by the faculty mentor)

**Selection Criteria**

A committee comprised of two faculty members (‘selection committee’) in the economics department will select the student.[[1]](#footnote-2) Selection criteria is based on:

(1) Academic performance: Specifically, (a) A minimum B+ average in economics courses. (b) Where applicable, a B+ or higher in econometrics, time series econometrics, mathematical economics or game theory.[[2]](#footnote-3)

(2) The quality and feasibility of the project, which will be determined by the selection committee. Evaluation of the project’s quality will include the committee’s assessment of the likelihood of a co-authored publication with the faculty mentor.

(3) Where relevant to the project, programming skills in Stata, R, MATLAB or Mathematica are also valued (but not required).

**How to apply?**

Students should connect with a sponsoring faculty member and identify a tentative research project to apply.  They should then complete the application form (below) including the name of their faculty mentor, proposed project title and abstract.

**Where to apply:**

Please submit your application as an email attachment to the department chair by the date below. Email: jsschwartz1@loyola.edu

**Important Dates**

* **Application deadline:** **March 28, 2025**
* Start date:  Monday, June 2, 2025
* End date:   Friday, August 11, 2025

Questions? Contact the chair of economics jsschwartz1@loyola.edu  or 410-617-2919.

**APPLICATION FORM**

1. **Applicant Background Information**

**Name:**

**Faculty mentor:** Please ask the faculty mentor to send the chair of the committee a short email stating his/her approval of the project. The email should be from the faculty mentor to the chair and should include your name and the title of your project.

**Overall GPA**

**Economics GPA**

**Grades in the following courses:**

Business Statistics, Intermediate Micro and/or Macro, Econometrics, Mathematical economics

**List any other relevant coursework:** Examples include courses in Data Science or Mathematics (e.g., Real Analysis or stochastic processes)

**Programming Skills and Proficiency:** Excel, Stata, MATLAB, etc. (note these qualifications are not required)

1. **Project Summary and Description**

**Title of the project:**

*In a few paragraphs, please describe your project. Specifically, write about one paragraph (each should be no more than 3-4 sentences) explaining your research question, the importance, and how you will accomplish the project. To aid you the following outline is provided.*

1. Research question Please clearly state your research question and expand on it as needed. For example, your research question may have a few related questions, or perhaps you may need to explain some terms or ideas to better flush out your research question.
2. Importance: Explain why answering the question is important for economists or policymakers. Here you will include any relevant background literature.
3. Accomplish:Explain how you will go about completing the project. For example, if you will use a specific data set, list the variables that you will be using for your project.

*The total length of this section: ¾ of a page.*

**References.**

Any references here.

1. If a faculty member on the selection committee wishes to be a mentor, another faculty member from economics (or from outside the department, if necessary) will be recruited to evaluate the applicant. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Applicability will be determined based on the content of the proposal. For example, a student proposing a project utilizing time series data should have econometrics or time series, this criteria also applies to (3) concerning a background in programming skills. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)