Doctoral Fellowships Initiative

Application Guidelines

The Deming Center is calling for proposals for the Doctoral Fellowships initiative. Doctoral Fellowships support PhD students from the Business School and IE&OR on applied research projects in conjunction with a company. The fellowships provide an opportunity for students to engage in a meaningful applied research project and gain valuable industry exposure and experience. We anticipate awarding up to eight fellowships in 2016.

Project proposals should describe the proposed research, the anticipated involvement of the partner company and must be supported by a faculty advisor. The following are some guidelines and further information.

Guidelines
✓ The project should ideally consist of a test of existing research and/or new research that is done in conjunction with a company, using the company’s input on the problem formulation and tested on their data as appropriate.
✓ Applicants can suggest partner companies or request the Deming Center to match them with a potential partner company. Students do not have to work on-site at the sponsor company, but projects should clearly require close collaboration with the sponsor.
✓ It is anticipated that the project will normally take place during the summer term, though proposers may suggest alternative trimesters as needed.
✓ Students in second and third year will have priority, although the fellowships are not limited to them.

Deliverables
✓ A working paper reporting the findings, due on January 31st, 2017.
✓ Presenting your work at the Doctoral Fellows Seminar at CBS, in the spring 2017.
✓ An executive summary (max. 2 pages) with the description, analysis and impact of the project.

Support
✓ Student will receive a stipend of $ 10,000 divided in 2 payments: $4,000 at the beginning of the project and $6,000 when all deliverables are provided.
✓ An additional $2,000 in travel funds will be provided as needed for on-site visits, if needed. Previous approval from the Deming Center is required before expenses are incurred.
Proposal Template
The proposal should be 3-5 pages in length and include:
✓ Project title
✓ Name of student
✓ Name of faculty supervisor

Body of the proposal
✓ Motivation for the work
✓ Brief description of literature
✓ Description of proposed research
✓ Information/company access you will need or have already arranged
✓ Anticipated results and practical impact
✓ As an appendix, related working papers if any.

Proposals should be sent to Angela Quintero (aq2163@columbia.edu) no later than May 31, 2016. The recipients will be announced on June 15th, 2016.