Doctoral Fellowships Initiative

Application Guidelines

The Deming Center at Columbia Business School is calling for proposals for our Doctoral Fellowships initiative. These fellowships support PhD students on applied research projects in partnership with a company. The initiative is open to PhDs across all divisions in the Business School as well as in Industrial Engineering and Operations Research (IE&OR) at SEAS. 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 2019.

Applications should describe the proposed research, the anticipated involvement of the partner company, and must be supported by a faculty advisor.

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 that the Deming Center 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 take place during the summer term, though applicants may suggest alternative trimesters as needed.
✓ Students raising to third and fourth year in 2019 will have priority, although the fellowships are not limited to those years.

Deliverables

✓ A working paper reporting the findings, due on January 31st 2020.
✓ Presentation of the work at the Doctoral Fellows Seminar at CBS, in the Spring 2020.
✓ 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, when the data necessary for the project has been obtained and $6,000 when all deliverables are provided.
✓ An additional $2,000 in travel funds will be provided, as needed, for on-site visits. 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:
  o Motivation for the work
  o Brief description of existing research and literature
  o Description of proposed research
  o Information/company access you will need or have already arranged
  o Anticipated results and practical impact
  o As an appendix, related working papers if any exist

Proposals should be sent to Angela Quintero (aq2163@columbia.edu) no later than May 31st 2019. The recipients of the fellowships will be announced on June 20th 2019.