



IRLE Dissertation Fellowship Program

IRLE is excited to launch a new **Dissertation Fellowship Program (DFP)** for UC students conducting dissertation research related to labor and employment. The DFP will offer an interdisciplinary environment for students to develop their research ideas, receive feedback on written work, and receive training in key aspects of research design, academic writing, and post-PhD career development.

Program description

IRLE's Dissertation Fellowship Program is managed by IRLE's Associate Director, with support from IRLE staff and affiliated faculty. Fellows attend a weekly two-hour seminar in which they receive practical training in theory, methods, and policy work, present their research in progress, and provide feedback on other fellows' research. The core emphasis is on research and the production of scholarly work focused on labor and employment. Trainings will draw on insights from a wide array of fields, including sociology, economics, anthropology, political science, city and regional planning, geography, education, history, public policy, law, social welfare, and public health. Fellows may also participate in ongoing research conducted by the Institute or one of its Centers and its affiliated faculty.

The fellowship program focuses on the development of a working paper based on dissertation project research. Fellows will receive training in selecting and framing a research problem, situating the research within the relevant scholarly literature, choosing the appropriate research approach and methods, conducting preliminary research, and drafting a research working paper. Papers are drafted by the beginning of March and completed by the end of the academic year, after which they are added to IRLE's [eScholarship Repository](#).

In addition to regular attendance at weekly seminars, Fellows are expected to provide and receive critical feedback on other Fellows' works in progress; and be active and contributing members of an interdisciplinary community of emerging scholars. In the spring semester, each Fellow will present a working paper at an IRLE-organized conference. The presentation provides an opportunity, in conjunction with development of the working paper, to receive feedback and to explore ways to effectively present research findings to an interdisciplinary audience as well as to experts in one's own discipline. Fellows are eligible for shared office space at IRLE to facilitate their research and writing.

The goal of this program is to expand dialogue across disciplines to engage with critical issues in the field of labor and employment, broadly defined. We seek to promote an interdepartmental and collaborative exchange of ideas and build a foundation for interdisciplinary research on important topics.

Fellows also benefit from the research and training activities of the [Center for Labor Research and Education](#), [Center for the Study of Child Care Employment](#), [Center on Wage and Employment Dynamics](#), and the [California Policy Lab](#).

Fellowship Requirements

Fellows will attend weekly meetings at IRLE during the academic year; submit written work for feedback by other students and UC Berkeley faculty; and provide commentary on the work of other fellows. Meeting time will be scheduled once the cohort has been established.

Fellowship Stipend

A yearly stipend of \$15,000 divided into ten monthly payments will be provided to each Graduate Fellow in the program.

Eligibility

Registered UC Berkeley doctoral students who will have advanced to candidacy by Fall 2018. Students at other UC campuses who are in residence at Berkeley during 2018-19 may also be considered.

To apply

Please submit a CV, a cover letter that describes your planned trajectory for conducting research and completing your dissertation; a 5-page dissertation prospectus; and a writing sample (MA paper or other individual work). Your advisor should submit a letter attesting to your time to completion and expected scholarly contribution. All materials should be sent to Charlotte Rutty, charlotterutty@berkeley.edu (the advisor letter should be sent directly by your advisor).

Applications must be received by **Monday, December 15**. Awards will be announced **January 12, 2018**.

Contact

Contact Sara Hinkley, IRLE Associate Director, at hinkley@berkeley.edu with questions.