

# Washington Center *for* Equitable Growth

*Evidence for a stronger economy*

Korin Davis, Director of Academic Programs

Jonathan Fisher, Research Advisor

Colleen Harwood, Grant Operations Manager

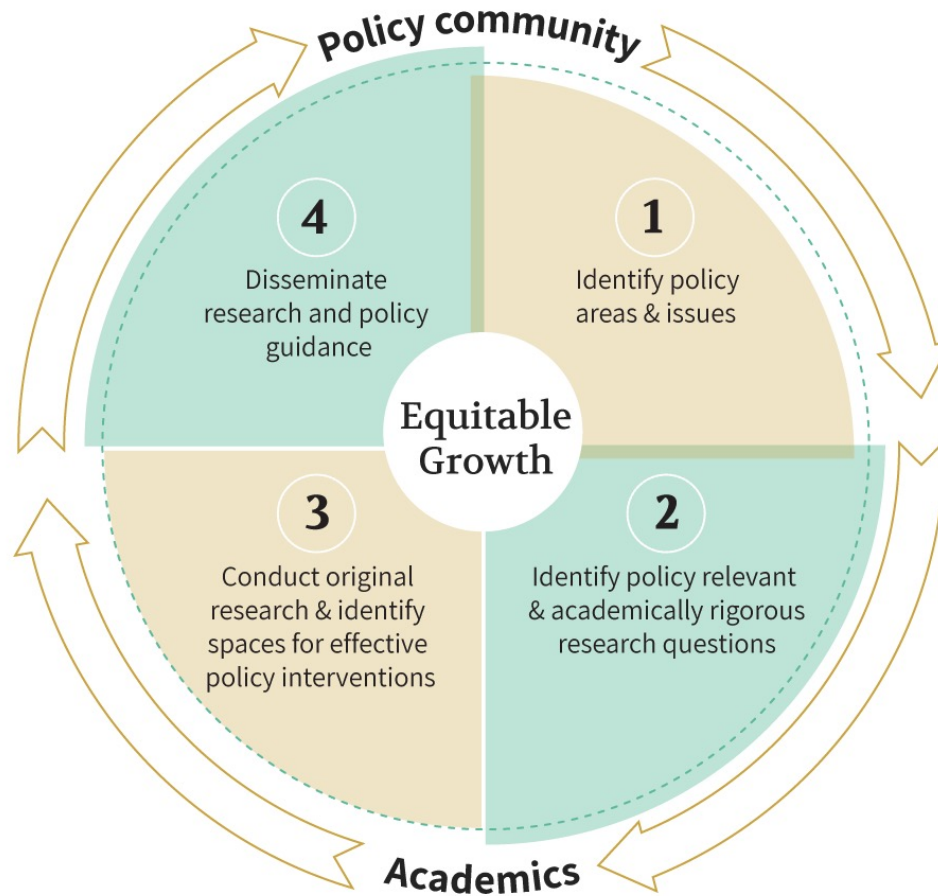


# MISSION

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**The Washington Center for Equitable Growth is a non-profit research and grantmaking organization dedicated to advancing evidence-based ideas and policies that promote strong, stable, and broad-based economic growth.**

# Unique funding approach



# Grant Programs

## Academic

- Open to researchers affiliated with U.S. universities
- Academic grants are typically in the \$25,000 to \$100,000 range over 1 to 3 years.

## Doctoral/Postdoctoral

- Open to graduate students currently enrolled in a Ph.D. program or in a postdoctoral position at a U.S. university
- Grants set at \$15,000 for one year
- Can choose to apply in either program, depending on the pool in which they'd like to compete



# Annual grant cycle

- Equitable Growth has one grant cycle per year
- Award roughly \$1,000,000 in Academic grants each cycle
- Application process begins with a letter of inquiry. The threshold to apply is designed to be low.
- Full proposals are by invitation only. We typically fund about 60% of projects invited to submit a full proposal
- Partner with other funders

# Funding priorities

## ■ **Macroeconomics and Inequality**

- Monetary, fiscal, and tax policy; macro-finance; climate; political economy

## ■ **Market structure**

- Existence and causes of market power; consequences of market power; effectiveness of policy tools

## ■ **Labor market**

- Power in labor markets; workplace organization; returns to work

## ■ **Human capital and wellbeing**

- Human capital development; human capital deployment; and intergenerational mobility

- Particularly interested in dimensions of inequality—race, ethnicity, gender, place, and environmental factors—as it relates these priorities.

# 2022 Request for Proposals

- Equitable Growth is interested in inequality in all of its forms and its relationship to growth. We also recognize that various forms of inequality interact with each other in ways that deserve more attention.
- We support research inquiry using many different types of evidence, relying on a variety of methodological approaches and cutting across academic disciplines.



# 2022 Request for Proposals

- Preference is given to projects:
  - Where the research question also touches upon the role racial stratification may play in the inquiry being posed
  - That create new data that can be made publicly available
  - And to studies that engage with relevant literature across disciplines.



# Academic Grants

- The deadline for Letters of Inquiry is Wednesday, January 26 at 11:59 PM EST. Applicants must also submit an abbreviated curriculum vitae using the online submission form.
- Letters of inquiry are short descriptions of a research project. They should be approximately two to three pages (about 1,000 to 1,500 words) in length.
- Academic grants are open to researchers affiliated with a U.S. university

# Evaluation Criteria

- All applications will be evaluated on the following criteria:
  - Proposed research questions are appropriately framed within the existing literature
  - Proposed research has the potential to advance the literature
  - Methodological soundness of the research design, including appropriate data
  - Relevance to Equitable Growth's mission
  - Relevance to policy and potential to make a contribution to evidence-backed policy solutions



# Elements of a strong application

- Plan ahead – start writing your proposal well in advance of the deadline
- Provide sufficient information for reviewers to evaluate the rigor and appropriateness of research design
- Consider the research stage of your project – research should be far enough along to convince reviewers it will be successful, with enough work remaining to justify the funding request
- Engage with the literature beyond your sub-field and discipline
- Budget request: Assess your needs and make an appropriate request



# Writing tips / Avoid common pitfalls

- Organize your proposal according to the requested criteria
  - Avoid: Multiple different ways of organizing your research question and/or research design
- Situate the research question but be careful not to spend too much time convincing the reviewer of its importance
- Provide sufficient detail on research design
- Be clear about data sources / data access



# QUESTIONS?

**We will now take questions from the Q&A box. If we do not get to your question today, please email [grants@equitablegrowth.org](mailto:grants@equitablegrowth.org).**

Equitable Growth staff are also available to meet with interested applicants. Please complete this [form](https://www.tfaforms.com/4942051) (<https://www.tfaforms.com/4942051>) if you would like to schedule a time with our staff regarding any questions you may have about submitting an application. You will receive an email from [grants@equitablegrowth.org](mailto:grants@equitablegrowth.org) to schedule a 15–30-minute Zoom call with Equitable Growth staff best positioned to answer your question(s).

# Contact information

**Korin Davis**

**Director of Academic Programs**

**202-276-3368**

**Academic Programs**

[grants@equitablegrowth.org](mailto:grants@equitablegrowth.org)

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