

Washington Center *for* Equitable Growth

Evidence for a stronger economy

Korin Davis, Director of Academic Programs

Jonathan Fisher, Research Advisor

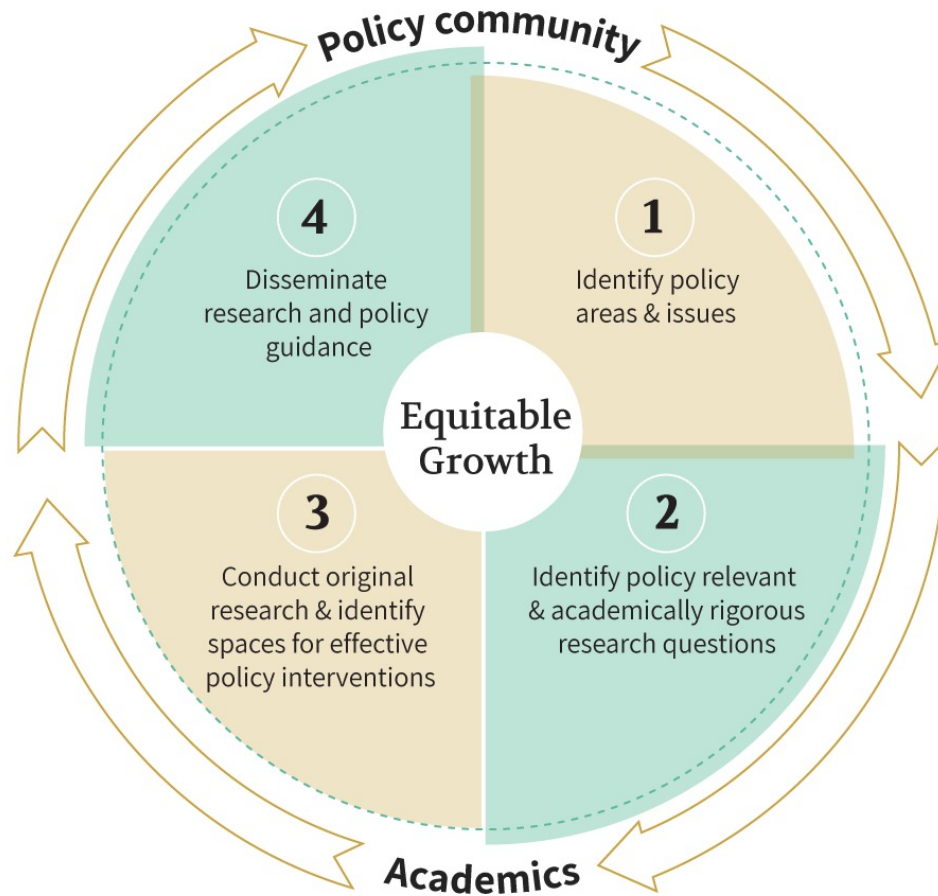
Colleen Harwood, Grant Operations Manager



MISSION

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

Doctoral/Post-Doctoral

- 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 over one year

Dissertation Scholars

- Open to pre-dissertation scholars currently enrolled in a Ph.D. program at a U.S. university
- Year-long, in-residence opportunity

Academic grants

- Average grant \$60,000
- Application is a two-step process: Letters of Inquiry due January 26. Full proposals by invitation only.



Annual grant cycle

- Equitable Growth has one grant cycle per year
- Award roughly \$1,000,000 in Academic grants each cycle
- Award about 12 Doctoral/Postdoctoral grants per cycle
- Acceptance rate for Doctoral/Postdoctoral grants is roughly 10 percent
- Application process, which includes a modest proposal of 6 pages, is designed to make the threshold for applying relatively low

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



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.



Doctoral/Postdoctoral Grants

- The deadline for proposals is Monday, March 21 at 11:59 PM EDT. Applicants must also submit an abbreviated curriculum vitae using the online submission form.
- Proposals should be approximately six single-spaced pages and address the following:
 - Problem or question your research seeks to address
 - How it relates to Equitable Growth's mission
 - Engagement with the relevant literature
 - Anticipated contribution to the literature
 - Detailed methodological approach, including data sources and research design
 - Status of data access
 - Potential policy implications
 - Timeline for completion
 - Budget narrative

Evaluation Criteria

- All proposals 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

Dissertation Scholars Program

- Equitable Growth is committed to building a pipeline of scholars doing cutting edge research on inequality and growth, and to supporting them to engage in the public sphere
- **In-resident program (flexible/virtual)** that provides Ph.D. candidates with financial and professional support to pursue their own research and to gain familiarity with current policy discussions and the policy process
- The position is **open to predissertation scholars** who are currently enrolled in a Ph.D. program at a U.S. university and whose research aligns with Equitable Growth's funding priorities

Dissertation Scholars Program

- Applications are due Wednesday, January 26 at 11:59 PM EST
- **Application materials include a curriculum vitae, six-page proposal describing your research project, a two-page statement of work, and two letters of recommendation**
- Finalists will be invited to a virtual site visit to give a presentation and meet with staff from our Policy, Communications, External and Government Affairs, and Academic Programs teams
- Dissertation Scholar applicants who are not selected for the program are automatically considered for a Doctoral grant

Evaluation Criteria

- Statements of purpose are evaluated on the following criteria:
 - Clarity on motivation of overall research agenda
 - Clarity on how proposed research fits within overall research agenda
 - Relationship of research agenda to Equitable Growth's mission
 - Relationship of research agenda to current policy debates
 - Specific and concrete goals on how spending time with Equitable Growth would further your career/research

Elements of a strong application

- Plan ahead – start 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/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.

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 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

Washington Center
for **Equitable Growth**

