

Washington Center *for* Equitable Growth

Evidence for a stronger economy

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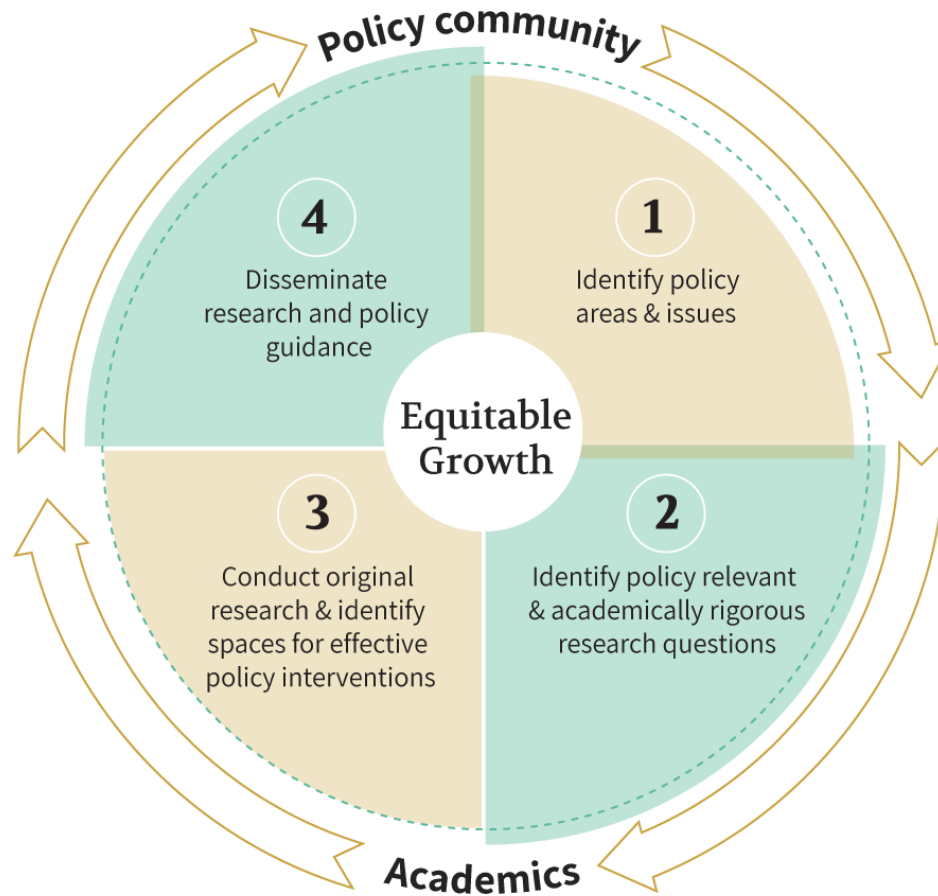
Colleen Harwood, Grant Operations Manager



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



To achieve our mission, we:

- Support and build a growing community of scholars, including early-career researchers, studying the relationship between inequality and growth
- Build a bridge between academics and policymakers to ensure that research is relevant, accessible, and informative to the policymaking process



Request for Proposals: Research grants for early career scholars

- Through this funding opportunity, Equitable Growth seeks to invest in early career scholars whose research agendas are policy relevant, related to how inequality affects economic growth, and who are interested in engaging with nonacademic audiences
- Investment in the research proposal but also the research agenda and you!
- Beyond financial support, access to grantee resources



Funding priorities (1)

Human capital and wellbeing

- What are the long-term returns to investments in children and families?

Economic mobility

- What policies, especially at scale, may be effective in making upward mobility more attainable and equitable?

Labor market

- What are the effects of policies intended to ensure that the introduction of new technologies augment work and lead to high-quality jobs? Where are current policies falling short in the face of rapid technological advancements?



Funding priorities (2)

Macroeconomic growth

- How can policy best support the supply side of the economy to generate equitable growth? What government policies are most effective at crowding-in private investment and spurring growth?

Fiscal policy

- How have changes to the tax code affected economic growth and inequality? We are interested in aggregate outcomes, firm outcomes, and household/individual outcomes.

Market structure

- How have technological developments affected competition? How does market concentration affect the development or deployment of new technologies?



Policy relevance

The research proposal and research statement

- Your research proposal and your research statement should relate to Equitable Growth's funding priorities and be policy-relevant.

Broad view of policy relevance (i.e., not just program evaluation)

- Illuminate policies that help or hinder more equitable growth in the U.S.
- Illuminate the need for a policy response.

We support research inquiry using many different types of evidence, relying on a variety of methodological approaches, and cutting across academic disciplines.



Early Career Grants

- The deadline for applications is Monday, January 29 at 11:59 PM EST.
- Applications include the following elements:
 - 5-page proposal
 - **One-to two-page research statement**
 - Two-page abbreviated CV
- Early Career Grants are open to:
 - Researchers affiliated with a U.S. university whose Ph.D. was issued within the past 8 years and who have not received tenure
 - Graduate students currently enrolled in a Ph.D. program at a U.S. university and who are in the dissertation stage of the graduate career

Early Career Grants


- Grants to graduate students and doctoral scholars are set at \$15,000 over 1 year
- Grants to early career scholars are set at \$30,000 over 1-2 years
- Equitable Growth is willing to fund a wide range of activities, including researcher salary and benefits, research assistance, data purchase, and costs associated with conducting experiments or participating in professional conferences. Our grants cannot cover indirect overhead.

Evaluation Criteria

- All applications will be evaluated on the following criteria:
 - Relevance of the overall application package to Equitable Growth's funding priorities
 - **Potential of the proposed research and overall research agenda to generate actionable insights and inform policy design and implementation**
 - **Researcher's potential to engage beyond academia to inform evidence-backed policy solutions**
 - 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



Elements of a strong application

- 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
 - Provide concrete examples of how your findings could lead to actionable insights that would inform policy
 - Clearly tie your proposal to your overall research agenda
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Writing tips / Avoid common pitfalls

- Plan ahead – check out the online application form and start preparing your application well in advance of the deadline
- Organize your proposal according to the requested criteria
- 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
- Be specific about policy implications



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/5096297>) 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

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Academic Programs

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for **Equitable Growth**

