Fellow, Economic Analysis & Data Management

The Growth Lab is an academic research program housed at Harvard’s Center for International Development. The lab consists of a dynamic, cross-disciplinary group of researchers that studies economic growth and structural change in an effort to understand the challenges and obstacles to economic development. As part of its mission, the Growth Lab engages actively in applying its research in policy engagements.

Position Summary

The Growth Lab Fellow, Economic Analysis & Data Management, is a challenging role that offers a unique opportunity to work on and contribute to a combination of frontier research and the application of research to address real world development problems. Under the guidance of Professor Ricardo Hausmann, affiliated professors throughout Harvard, and senior researchers at the Growth Lab Fellows in this position contribute significantly to the core research agenda of the lab. Fellows in this role gain analytical skills alongside practical, hands-on experience working in lower- and middle-income countries on pressing development challenges.

We are looking for candidates who have a background in economics, public policy, international development, or a related field requiring substantial quantitative coursework; and who have a deep interest in working in developing countries and interacting with a multitude of collaborators in varying contexts and fast-paced environment.

Activities and Responsibilities

To get a sense for the types of projects Growth Lab Fellows work on, we invite you to visit these links: Sri Lanka, Chiapas, Mexico, and Albania.

The activities and responsibilities of a Growth Lab Fellow in this role include:

- Contribute to technical execution of research by cleaning and managing large datasets and checking and conducting statistical analyses of data using Stata, R, Python;
- Draft project reports, research protocols, and other project documents;
- Support application of research findings to policy development travelling to the field as needed (pending public health guidance and University travel policies);
- Draft and contribute to research publications, intermediate and final products: project reports, policy memos, journal publications, policy recommendations and policy briefs; and
- Organize slide decks of Growth Lab country projects and research for conferences and thematic presentations to the Harvard community.
Minimum Qualifications

- Masters’ degree in Economics, Public Policy, International Development, Data Science/Network Science or related graduate studies.
- Strong academic record.
- Strong interest in public policy and economic development research.
- Excellent command of Microsoft Office suite (Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint).
- Ability to use statistical software (at a minimum STATA, R, and/or Python).
- Flexibility, self-motivation, and the ability to manage multiple tasks efficiently both individually and as a member of teams.
- Fluency and excellent communication skills in English, including ability to present research and recommendations to senior and researchers.
- Minimum 2 years of directly related experience.

Preferred qualifications

- Graduate-level coursework in Economics and Econometrics.
- Excellent English oral and written communication skills.
- Prior experience as a research assistant in the fields of either Public Policy or Economic Development.
- Prior experience in field research.
- Excellent command of Stata, R or Python.
- Prior experience conducting research on or living in developing countries; flexibility to travel.
- Spanish, French, Arabic or Russian language proficiency a plus.

Applying

We invite qualified candidates to send a cover letter, resume, transcripts for all degrees (undergraduate and graduate), and a brief (1-2 pages) writing sample. Please send all documents in PDF to growthlab_cid@hks.harvard.edu referencing Fellow, Economic Analysis & Data Management 2021 plus first and last name in the subject line. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. No applications will be considered without all the required documents. Qualified candidates will be invited to first round interviews shortly after.