

NYC Center for Economic Opportunity - Poverty Research Unit

The Center for Economic Opportunity (CEO) fights the cycle of poverty in New York City through innovative programs that build human capital and improve financial security. Launched by the Office of the Mayor in 2006, CEO works with both City agencies and the federal government to implement successful anti-poverty initiatives in New York and partner cities across the United States. CEO was the recipient of the Harvard Innovations in Government Award.

CEO poverty measurement, led by the Poverty Research Unit (PRU), is well recognized in the research and policy communities. Until 2008, when PRU released its first working paper on poverty in New York City, neither the Federal nor any other branch of government developed measures of poverty that incorporated the latest recommendations from the National Academy of Science for improving the way poverty is measured in the U.S.

CEO's alternative poverty measure has become an important tool for evaluating policies, assessing the progress the city has made over time in reducing poverty and designing new policies to reduce current levels of economic deprivation.

For more information on CEO's alternative poverty measure visit: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/ceo/html/poverty/poverty.shtml>

Paid Technical Fellowship – Fall 2016

CEO is seeking a technical fellow with a focus on computer programming and coding. This is a paid position.

This fellowship will provide the opportunity to enhance existing coding and programming skills and provide an opportunity to understand the concept behind alternative poverty metrics. Independent judgement is required to develop efficient programming. There may also be opportunities to work on special projects and report writing. The fellow will be supervised by one of PRU's Research Associates.

Examples of the work performed in this position include:

- Translating and documenting in STATA the syntax for CEO's poverty measure that are currently written in SPSS
- Ensuring that output of translated syntax file is identical to that of original SPSS syntax file
- Developing ado-files for repetitive tasks and various estimations
- Automating the production of data tables and generating them in publication quality

Examples of tasks performed by syntax to be translated:

- Datasets are mostly comprised of multiple member households, subdivided into various family subunits by syntax
- Create new variables using calculations on already existing variables and aggregating those values to varying types of family subunit; e.g.: total income summed from income components for individuals, summed for all family members and summed only for husband/wife
- Regression analysis and data imputation.
- Splitting and merging subsets of data with matching done on various family subunits

Qualifications include the following but not limited to:

- BA/BS in relevant field (e.g., statistics, economics, public policy, computer science, etc.) Some graduate studies or higher degree is preferred.
- High level of proficiency in Stata language including do-file, Stata's matrix programming and ado-file programming language; experience with Mata programming language is a plus
- Competency in SPSS is necessary.

Job Application

Applicant must have strong programming skills and the ability to work independently and with a team. An interest in poverty, public policy or tax policy is preferred. Applicants with knowledge and experience in computer programming, information science, IT project management or mathematics are also encouraged to apply.

The fellowship will last approximately 6 months with the possibility of extending.

To apply, please send your application to [ceo@cityhall.nyc.gov](mailto:ceo@cityhall.nyc.gov) with the subject line "Technical Fellowship." Your application must include:

1. Resume
2. Cover letter stating relevant skills and interest
3. Coding sample using Stata programming language; no more than 2 pages in length.

Upon selection of finalists, candidates will receive a brief translation test to be completed offsite.

The City of New York is an Equal Opportunity Employer.