Now inviting applications for 2018-2019 doctoral fellows

Fellowship awards
$32,000 dissertation-stage stipend
+ $5,000 research funds

Application deadline
Friday, June 1, 2018
Overview
Launching a new generation of Inequality Scholars

Research areas
Top-end income inequality and wealth concentration
Inequalities and opportunity
Cross-cutting dimensions of inequality
Poverty and Justice

Program components
Proseminar sequence
Inequality Seminar Series
The Stone Lecture and special events
The Stone Senior Scholars

Fellowship awards and terms
James M. and Cathleen D. Stone PhD Scholars in Inequality and Wealth Concentration
Malcolm Hewitt Wiener PhD Scholars in Poverty and Justice

Application and eligibility
Overview: Launching a new generation of Inequality PhD Scholars

The Multidisciplinary Program in Inequality & Social Policy is pleased to announce exceptional fellowship opportunities for Harvard University doctoral students in the social sciences. We are now accepting applications for our 2018-2019 cohort of doctoral fellows: The James M. and Cathleen D. Stone PhD Scholars in Inequality and Wealth Concentration and the Malcolm Hewitt Wiener PhD Scholars in Poverty and Justice.

Support from the James M. and Cathleen D. Stone Foundation launched the first cohort of eight Stone PhD Scholars in 2016, giving new momentum to Harvard University efforts to cultivate the very best emerging scholarship on issues of inequality and wealth concentration. Their engagement makes possible continued opportunities for PhD students to acquire insights and tools from neighboring social science fields with which to apply themselves to consequential problems.

Alongside the Stone PhD Scholars in Inequality and Wealth Concentration, we continue to build a group of Malcolm Hewitt Wiener PhD Scholars in Poverty and Justice, with two additional doctoral fellowships each year designated for PhD students whose research will advance our understanding of problems of material disadvantage and criminal justice.

We are honored that these contributors have chosen to invest in PhD students. At a time of growing public concern about inequality, disparities in life chances, and the implications of high levels of wealth concentration, social science research can bring deep and rigorous scholarship to bear in analyzing these issues. The range of research questions represented in the program is the future of much exciting and important work in the social sciences. It is the choices made now, the problems young scholars choose to pursue, that will shape the research agenda and our progress on these issues in the coming years.

The immediate impact of these gifts is that they enable Harvard to carry forward an initiative established and built over more than 15 years with the support of the National Science Foundation, a multidisciplinary learning experience designed to equip Harvard PhD students across the social sciences to advance the very best problem-driven research on issues of inequality, poverty, and socioeconomic mobility.

A distinctive new focus for the coming five years will be a coordinated endeavor to develop new research on top-end income inequality and wealth concentration, the main drivers of U.S. economic inequality in recent decades. Significant new resources will enable Harvard PhD students to press forward new lines of empirical research to better understand the nature of these trends at the top of the distribution and their economic, political, and social implications. What is the appropriate framework for thinking about policies to address these trends or mitigate their adverse effects? Research has only begun to investigate these questions.

1. New lines of research: Top-end income inequality and wealth concentration

To spur new lines of research, half of the 8-10 Stone Scholar Inequality and Wealth Concentration fellowships are specifically designated for Harvard PhD students whose research interests encompass questions pertaining to top-end inequality or wealth concentration: their causes, consequences, and institutions/policies to address these developments. (The remaining Stone PhD Scholar fellowships are open with respect to substantive focus within any of the Inequality & Social Policy research domains).
Much research on economic inequality has focused on important issues of reducing disparities between the bottom and middle of the distribution. Yet overall economic inequality in the U.S. has been propelled largely by growth at the very top, with implications that academic research has only begun to explore.

Top-end inequality may reflect different determinants than inequality in other parts of the distribution. The pulling away of top incomes and wealth may have distinct consequences for economic growth, intergenerational mobility, public spending, or democratic politics. Policies aimed at addressing the sources or implications of inequality at the upper reaches of the distribution will likely differ from those designed to narrow gaps in the bottom half of the distribution. Progress is apt to come from bringing greater analytic clarity to these “distinct, albeit interrelated challenges” of inequality (Summers, Kearney, and Hershbein 2015). The Stone PhD Scholar fellowships aim to illuminate these issues by supporting research on relatively less studied questions of income and wealth concentration at the very top.

Magnitudes and trends in wealth inequality are even more striking than income inequality, although measurement presents significant challenges and remains an important area of investigation. Emmanuel Saez and Gabriel Zucman find that most of the increase in U.S. wealth concentration in recent decades is driven by the top 0.1 percent, whose wealth share has grown from 7% in 1978 to 22% in 2012, comparable to levels seen in the early 20th century. At the same time, the bottom 90 percent wealth share has sharply reversed its historical upward trend, made possible by growing middle class wealth from pensions and homeownership through much of the mid-20th century. (Saez and Zucman 2015).

The scale of these developments invites more systematic inquiry, including historical and cross-national perspectives. Does it matter that the gains of economic prosperity largely accrue to small share of households, or that historical patterns in wealth-building have again become more concentrated? What consequences do trends at the upper reaches of the distribution have on outcomes for others in the larger economy and society—e.g., through their potential effects on economic growth, upward mobility and life prospects for the next generation, or the concentration of economic and political power?

2. An engaged community of scholars

The Multidisciplinary Program in Inequality & Social Policy offers unparalleled resources for Harvard PhD students working in these areas. Some 70 Faculty participants are engaged in the program, drawn from the Harvard departments of Economics, Government, and Sociology; the Harvard Kennedy School; Harvard Business School; Harvard Graduate School of Education, and Harvard Law School.

Recent faculty additions to the program bring new strengths in income inequality and wealth concentration, intergenerational mobility, labor markets and human capital investment, government management of private-sector risks, regulation and government accountability, behavioral economics and household finance, judgment and decision-making; behavioral science in the design of social policy, regional economies and housing, and race, civil rights, and politics.
Stone and Wiener PhD Scholars gain membership in an active intellectual community of faculty, PhD students, and national and international scholars advancing important work in these areas. Doctoral students drawn from different disciplines gain opportunities they might not otherwise have to interact and learn from each other, from Harvard faculty drawn from across the University, and from the program’s network of Stone Senior Scholar affiliates and visitors.

Doctoral participants join an accomplished line of Alumni who have come through the Inequality & Social Policy program since its founding in 1998. The program now counts nearly 180 PhD social scientists among its former doctoral fellows, including some who now participate as faculty members. Former Inequality & Social Policy fellows have authored over 60 books that are shaping the field today. Their work has garnered some 30 book prizes, 60 early career awards, and over 70 dissertation and article awards.

3. An integrated program of education and research

Doctoral participants pursue their research interests through an integrated set of training activities. The three-semester Proseminar in Inequality & Social Policy, taught by a multidisciplinary team of four faculty members, constitutes the core of the program. PhD students gain exposure to advanced scholarship in other fields and develop new insights from seeing how other disciplines approach similar research problems.

Doctoral fellows also attend the weekly Inequality & Social Policy Seminar Series, which delves into the latest academic research in this area coming out of economics, political science, sociology, and related fields. Participants gain exposure to some of the most exciting work at the frontiers of the social sciences.

The annual Stone Lecture in Economic Inequality and other special events offer opportunities for doctoral participants to examine the big questions, to engage in a broader conversation with national and international visitors.

4. Generous dissertation and research support

The Inequality & Social Policy program aims to cultivate pathbreaking scholarship by providing doctoral students with the intellectual and financial support to do their very best work in this area. Doctoral students selected as Stone PhD Scholars or Wiener PhD Scholars receive generous fellowship resources to enable their full participation in this education and research initiative.

PhD Scholars will generally be awarded a dissertation stipend of $32,000, reserved for use at the dissertation research stage (typically G-4 year), plus $5,000 in individual research funds that may be used at any point during their doctoral studies. Additional conference funds may be available for those doing work on top-end inequality and wealth concentration.

The research funds are intended to enable Harvard PhD students to carry out ambitious original research where costs otherwise might be prohibitive. In making these enhanced resources available, the Inequality & Social Policy program aims to open new possibilities for Harvard PhD students to think boldly and creatively in pursuing innovative lines of inequality research. □
**Substantive research areas**

The program is broadly organized into four research areas. The research domains are not mutually exclusive, and the examples in each by no means exhaust the sorts of questions that the PhD Scholars might investigate in their own work.

Core questions in each focus on causes, consequences, or policies to address issues of inequality. Policy questions are broadly conceived to include the politics and political economy that give rise to particular institutions and policy outcomes, as well as specific policy interventions.

1. **Top-end income inequality and wealth concentration**

Research in this area seeks to understand the causes and consequences of growing income inequality and wealth inequality driven by trends at the upper reaches of the distribution, particularly the gains of the top 1 percent.

Accounting for top-end income growth recognizes both labor market explanations and the growing role of capital income in the rise of top incomes in the U.S. since the late 1990s. To what extent do changes in technology, the supply and demand for education and skills, and globalization explain the rise of the 1 percent? What is the role of CEO pay and executive compensation? How much top-end inequality is driven by pay dispersion within versus across firms? How do other countries compare, and what explains cross-national differences?

The magnitude of the rise in top-end inequality invites empirical examination of its systemic consequences: its economic, political, and social effects for those at other strata in the distribution. What is the effect of top-end inequality on economic growth? What are the mechanisms by which it motivates or impedes innovation? Does top-end inequality induce “consumption cascades,” consumption choices that ripple down the distribution? Do these consumption choices in turn increase the odds of financial distress (Bertrand & Morse, Frank)?

What are the effects of a pulling away of top incomes on social stratification and affinity? How does it affect willingness to invest in public goods? How does growing income inequality at the top affect the distribution of political preferences and political participation? Does economic inequality at the top drive political polarization and government gridlock?

**Wealth concentration.** A priority of the Stone PhD scholarships is to spur new research on high levels of wealth concentration. Income and wealth inequality are closely linked, but wealth will also reflect differences in savings rates, rates of return, and inherited wealth. What are the sources and consequences of even greater levels of concentration at the top of the wealth distribution? How did the Great Recession affect wealth distribution? How rigid is the wealth structure, and to what extent is wealth inequality maintained across generations? What is the relative importance of different channels of intergenerational wealth transmission (Pfeffer and Killewald 2015)? What are the consequences of soaring levels of wealth at the top for intergenerational mobility?

The political implications of growing wealth concentration for democracy have drawn public discussion, but empirical research on these issues has only begun to scratch the surface. Research by Theda Skocpol and colleagues has highlighted the importance not simply of vast inflows of money into politics in recent years, but its organization and strategic deployment through wealthy donor networks. How have these developments affected the political parties, their strategies, and policy outcomes?

What tax and regulatory policies can address top-end inequality and wealth concentration? What are the political and economic interests that have shaped the institutions and regulatory frameworks governing financial markets, intellectual property rights, housing markets, antitrust and labor law, or bankruptcy law? How does the mobility of capital shape optimal tax policy? What policies can help increase middle class savings and asset-building across the distribution?
2. Inequalities and opportunity

This research cluster explores inequalities as they manifest themselves in specific domains, as well as the relationship between inequality and opportunity. Here cross-national comparisons can help disentangle potential explanations and bring into sharper relief the political underpinnings of different national responses to inequality and mobility.

Inequalities.

Political inequalities. What are the sources of political inequalities in engagement, participation, and representation? How are economic and social inequalities related to issues of civic trust, democratic governance, and accountability?

Labor markets. How have skill-biased technological changes, changing demographics, globalization, and declining unionization, and government policies such as the minimum wage affected wage dispersion? What explains the gender wage gap? How can firms foster diversity?

Gender and family. To what extent do changing gender norms affect women’s participation in household and labor market activities? How does changing family structure shape patterns of poverty and the intergenerational transmission of disadvantage? How have changes in economic opportunity and insecurity affected family formation and stability?

Educational inequalities. Access and quality. Most explanations of rising inequality focus attention on formal education at all levels as the most powerful mobility device. How might disparities in access and school quality be narrowed?

Environmental inequalities. Those living in poor communities are particularly likely to be exposed to environmental toxins. What are the economic, political, and social sources of these disparities, and what are the long-term developmental and societal consequences?

Opportunity and intergenerational mobility. To what extent do the circumstances in which a child is born determine life outcomes? Work in this area concerns both socioeconomic mobility over the life course and intergenerational mobility. How does intergenerational mobility vary over time and cross-nationally? Are income or wealth inequality causally related to socioeconomic mobility, or are they best viewed as distinct phenomena? What are the mechanisms of intergenerational transmission of advantage, and how might these differ at different points in the income distribution?

Research has shown that gaps contributing to later educational achievement emerge quite early in childhood, with enduring consequences for later life chances. How can we narrow opportunity gaps for low-income children?

3. Cross-cutting dimensions: Racial and spatial inequalities

Research here seeks to understand cross-cutting dimensions of inequality—disparities not simply reducible to income inequality. How do race and place continue to shape the lives and life chances of individuals?

Race. The nature of poverty, labor force participation, socioeconomic mobility, health, and wealth all exhibit enduring differences by race. Research has shown that black families live in poorer neighborhoods than white families at similar incomes (Reardon, Fox, and Townsend 2015). Seventy percent of African-Americans who live in today’s poorest, most racially-segregated neighborhoods are from families who lived in similar neighborhoods three decades ago (Sharkey 2013). Evidence suggests that black children raised in middle-income families fall out of the middle class at higher rates than white children in adulthood (Brown 2016).

Black joblessness remains higher than that of whites, with no appreciable narrowing of this gap over more than four decades. Black unemployment remains higher at all education levels. African-Americans exhibit premature aging on a variety of health measures and shorter life expectancies than
whites, health disparities that are present at all income and education levels (Williamson 2016). Racial wealth gaps are large and growing: Average family wealth for whites in 2013 was $678,000, compared to $95,000 for black families.

What are the social and institutional structures that contribute to persistent disparities in outcomes by race? What role do bias and discrimination play? How can social policy work to reduce racial disparities in access to opportunity and in the distribution of resources? How does the politics of race influence social policy?

Spatial inequalities. A growing body of research in sociology and economics suggests that one’s neighborhood shapes individual outcomes and upward mobility later in life. Research in political geography highlights the ways in which spatial features shape political processes and policy outcomes.

What are the mechanisms of neighborhood environment that shape opportunity and life outcomes? What are the implications for policy aimed at improving opportunity for those living in distressed neighborhoods? What is the role for moving-to-opportunity programs, investments in schools, or investment in neighborhoods?

In the context of growing income and wealth concentration, how does the geography of inequality and economic segregation affect social interactions and individual outcomes? What are the consequences of growing economic segregation for the supply and distribution of local public goods? How does political geography influence the mobilization and representation of political interests? How does it shape capacities to address local social problems?

Evidence of declining geographic mobility and labor market fluidity in the US over the past three decades has been identified as a potential contributor to income inequality (Ganong and Shoag 2015, Molloy et al 2016). What are the sources of changes in geographic mobility and labor market fluidity? What role do housing markets and land-use regulation play?

4. Poverty and justice

Poverty. Research here focuses on the experience of poverty and economic insecurity for individuals and families. What are the causes of persistent poverty? What are the main sources of economic insecurity, and what effects do economic shocks have long-term socioeconomic mobility?

What are effective social policies to alleviate material hardship and foster durable mobility out of poverty? What can be done to tackle joblessness and boost earnings among the lowest-paid workers? What has been the impact of the Earned Income Tax Credit, education and workforce training, housing policies, moving to opportunity programs, and pay for performance (social impact bonds) as models for tackling problems of economic insecurity and opportunity?

Criminal justice. After forty years of growth in the scale of criminal punishment, the United States has built a massive penal system unparalleled in the world, incarcerating whole segments of America’s poor and minority communities. (Western 2015). What is the effect of the criminal justice system on the families of the incarcerated, victims of crime and violence, and communities now saturated with criminal justice supervision?

What are promising policies to meet the challenges of reentry and employment opportunities for formerly incarcerated? What are the political forces that contributed to sharp rise in mass incarceration, and what are the politics underlying prospects for criminal justice reform today?
Program components

1. Proseminar sequence and research

The three-semester Proseminar in Inequality & Social Policy course sequence serves as the central vehicle for bringing Inequality doctoral fellows from different disciplines together in an intensive and sustained multidisciplinary learning experience.

The first two terms of the proseminar survey central debates in the program’s substantive research domains. Explicitly multidisciplinary in approach, prosemnars I and II are taught by a team of faculty members drawn from the disciplines of economics, political science, and sociology. In 2018-2019, the course will be led by Jennifer Hochschild, Devah Pager, Jason Furman, and a fourth member (TBA). It is scheduled to meet on Wednesdays, 3-5 pm, in both the fall and spring terms.

Students also focus in the first year of the proseminar on the development of a major piece of publishable research. Students receive extensive feedback on this research over the course of this first year and next.

Proseminar III, taken in the fall of the following year (Mondays, 2-4 pm), is a research workshop dedicated to the presentation and advancement to publication of this research paper. Each student is paired with an invited academic speaker from the Harvard Inequality & Social Policy Seminar Series, who attends the proseminar class and serves as principal discussant for the student paper.

The participation of these faculty visitors, selected by the students themselves, affords a rare opportunity for doctoral participants to engage in an extended discussion of their own research with leading scholars in their fields.

2. Harvard Inequality & Social Policy Seminar Series

Doctoral fellows also attend and participate in the Harvard Inequality & Social Policy Seminar Series, a multidisciplinary seminar that brings in national scholars and Harvard faculty to share and discuss their latest research.

Meeting weekly over lunch on Mondays from 12:00-1:30 pm, the seminar exposes participants to critical new ideas and research findings from economics, political science, sociology, and neighboring social science fields.

Exemplary research programs are strongly multidisciplinary, pushing the frontiers of research by continually confronting new perspectives and engaging with the best scholarship being developed in other fields.
3. The Stone Lecture in Inequality and special events

The annual Stone Lecture in Economic Inequality and other special events bring together the Harvard community for a larger discussion of these issues. Doctoral fellows gain many opportunities on these occasions and in the course of the academic year to meet and interact in small-group settings with these visitors as well.


Harvard faculty participants shared the stage in an earlier agenda-setting event for the Stone PhD Scholars initiative, *Ten Big Ideas in the Study of Inequality*, designed to identify the big and important questions in the field and catalyze further discussion and research, particularly in the area of top-end inequality and wealth concentration.

*Photos: Martha Stewart for the Institute of Politics. (Thomas Piketty Forum); Marcin Piatkowski (Ten Big Ideas in Inequality)*
Coping with Extreme Poverty on $2.00 a Day

Kathryn Edin
Brown University
H. Luke Shaefer
University of Michigan
David T. Ellwood
Harvard University
William Julius Wilson
Harvard University

Tuesday, November 10, 2015 — 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Harvard Kennedy School
Malcolm Wiener Auditorium (Chapters Li)

Inequality Reexamined

A conference in honor of Christopher “Bundy” Jacobs

Great American City: A Panel Discussion

Featuring the authors:
Robert J. Sampson
Newark I. Professor of the Social Sciences Department of Sociology, Harvard University
Kathryn Edin
Professor of Economics and Sociology, Harvard Kennedy School
Thomas Sugrue
Henry J. Sainton Kellogg Professor of Social Science, University of Pennsylvania
Edward Glaeser
Professor of Economics, Harvard University
Edward Davis
Newark Police Department

Moderated by William Julius Wilson

Harvard University

Inequality & Social Policy

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Harvard University
4. Engage with the Stone Senior Scholars

Doctoral fellows will have opportunities to engage with and learn from the Stone Senior Scholars, a group of twelve national faculty affiliates from across the country who bring distinctive insights and perspective from their own work in this area. The Stone Senior Scholars will be invited to campus from time to time to participate in program events.

Stone Senior Scholars

DARON ACEMOGLU
Economics, MIT

DAVID AUTOR
Economics, MIT

MARIANNE BERTRAND
The University of Chicago Booth School of Business

RAJ CHETTY
Economics, Stanford University.
Director, Equality of Opportunity Project

JANET C. GORNICK
Political Science and Sociology, The Graduate Center, CUNY
Director, Stone Center on Socio-Economic Inequality; US Office of LIS

DAVID B. GRUSKY
Sociology, Stanford University
Director, Center on Poverty and Inequality

ANNETTE LAREAU
Sociology, University of Pennsylvania

MELVIN L. OLIVER
Sociologist and President, Pitzer College

PAUL PIERSON
Political Science, University of California, Berkeley

EMMANUEL SAEZ
Economics, University of California, Berkeley
Director, Center for Equitable Growth

RACHEL SHERMAN
Sociology, The New School

GABRIEL ZUCMAN
Economics, University of California, Berkeley
Co-Director, World Inequality Database (WID.world)
Harvard Inequality & Social Policy Seminar Series

Fall 2017

ELIZABETH OLTMANS ANANAT, Public Policy, Duke University
The Effect of Increased Income on Children’s Academic Achievement: Evidence from the Marcellus Shale.

JOHN D. SKRENTNY, Sociology, University of California, San Diego
Is there a STEM Worker Crisis?

JENS LUDWIG, Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago
Personalized Policies

CELESTE WATKINS-HAYES, Sociology and African American Studies, Northwestern University
Remaking a Life, Reversing an Epidemic: HIV/AIDS and the Politics of Transformation

NICHOLAS BLOOM, Economics, Stanford University
The Great Micro Moderation.

DAVID E. CAMPBELL, Political Science, University of Notre Dame
Godless Politics: The Politics of Secularism in the United States.

KENNETH SCHEVE, Political Science, Stanford University
The Economic Origins of Authoritarian Values: Evidence from Local Trade Shocks in the United Kingdom.

FRANK R. BAUMGARTNER, Political Science, UNC Chapel Hill
Racial Disparities in Traffic Stops.

THOMAS SHAPIRO, Law and Social Policy, Brandeis University
Toxic Inequality: How America’s Wealth Gap Destroys Mobility, Deepens the Racial Divide, and Threatens Our Future.

CAROLINE M. HOXBY, Economics, Stanford University
Returns to College Majors in the US and Measuring Educational Opportunities for Students of All Incomes at Selective Universities.

RICHARD V. REEVES, Senior Fellow, The Brookings Institution
Dream Hoarders: How the American Upper Middle Class is Leaving Everyone Else in the Dust, Why That is a Problem, and What to Do...

ANTHONY S. CHEN, Sociology & Political Science, Northwestern Univ.
The Forgotten Origins of Race-Conscious Affirmative Action in College Admissions

CHRISTOPHER UGGEN, Sociology, University of Minnesota
Sexual Harassment and the Life Course

Spring 2018

SHELLEY CORRELL, Sociology, Stanford University
Inside the Black Box of Organizational Life: The Gendered Language of Performance Assessment

HEATHER ANN THOMPSON, History, University of Michigan
From Attica to MOVE: Why the 1970s and 1980s Matters to Criminal Justice Policymaking Today

JESSICA TROUNSTINE, Political Science, UC Merced
Segregation by Design: Local Politics and Inequality in American Cities.

MAYA SEN, Political Scientist, Harvard Kennedy School

FRANK DOBBIN, Sociology, Harvard University
Do Anti-Harassment Programs Reduce Harassment? Evidence from the Workplace.

ANTHONY ABRAHAM JACK, Harvard Graduate School of Education
"I, too, am hungry." Structural Exclusion at an Elite University.

NATHANIEL HENDREN, Economics, Harvard University

JENNIFER S. LERNER, Psychologist, Harvard Kennedy School
Emotion, Addiction, and Money: Under-Explored Pathways to Poverty

ARNE L. KALLEBERG, Sociology, UNC Chapel Hill

JOHN N. FRIEDMAN, Economics, Brown University

MARIANNE BERTRAND, Economics, University of Chicago Booth
Coming apart? Cultural distances in the United States over time.

ALEXANDER HERTEL-FERNANDEZ, SIPA, Columbia University
Politics at Work: How Companies Turn Their Workers into Lobbyists.

GABRIEL ZUCMAN, Economics, University of California, Berkeley
The Missing Profits of Nations
Key program requirements summarized

Those selected for the PhD Scholar fellowships are expected, under the terms of these awards, to:

(i) Enroll in the three-term proseminar course sequence in fall 2018, culminating in the completion of an original research project and its presentation in the third-term proseminar in fall 2019.

(ii) Attend and participate in the weekly Harvard Inequality & Social Policy Seminar Series.

(iii) Attend the annual Stone Lecture in Economic Inequality and Inequality & Social Policy special events.

(iv) Make full use of opportunities to engage with the Stone Senior Scholars and other Inequality & Social Policy visitors.
Fellowship awards

The Inequality & Social Policy program aims to select 8-10 James M. and Cathleen D. Stone PhD Scholars in Inequality and Wealth Concentration and two Malcolm Hewitt Wiener PhD Scholars in Poverty and Justice.

Applicants should note that half of the Stone PhD Scholar fellowships are specifically designated for Harvard PhD students who will pursue research on top-end income inequality or wealth concentration. The purpose of these fellowships is to spur academic work on the implications of these trends at the top of the distribution.

The remaining Stone PhD Scholar fellowships are open with respect to focus within the Inequality & Social Policy program’s areas of interest. Applicants will be automatically considered for all applicable fellowships.

The selection committee may take into account existing resources in those cases where students already hold outside multiyear fellowships (NSF, Soros, Ford) that effectively ensure five or more years of full stipend coverage. In these circumstances, PhD Scholars are generally awarded a more flexible individual research fund of $12,000 to $18,000 to directly support their academic work, rather than a dissertation-stage stipend.

The James M. and Cathleen D. Stone PhD Scholars in Inequality and Wealth Concentration

The Malcolm Hewitt Wiener PhD Scholars in Poverty and Justice

The PhD Scholar fellowships combine generous stipend and research support:

(i) A dissertation-stage stipend of $32,000, reserved for use at the dissertation stage (generally G-4 year) so that PhD Scholars may focus exclusively on their own dissertation research and writing.

(ii) Individual research fund of $5,000, which may be used at any time during the Scholar’s doctoral studies. These resources are intended to spur innovative student research where costs might otherwise be prohibitive. They are meant to support field research and in-depth interviews, original data collection, data purchases, field or laboratory experiments, large-scale surveys, and similar research needs.

(iii) Stone travel funds for inequality conferences and workshops. Travel funds may be available for conferences or workshops that contribute to the development of student research on top-end inequality or wealth concentration.
Application and eligibility

This program is designed for Harvard doctoral students in the social sciences who are now completing their first or second year of doctoral study (G-1 or G-2). The curriculum focuses primarily on research from the disciplines of economics, political science, sociology, and social policy. Students from Harvard’s PhD programs in African and African-American Studies, Economics, Education, Government, Health Policy, Political Economy and Government, Psychology, Public Policy, Sociology, Social Policy, or in a related doctoral program with a focus on social science research are eligible to apply.

Both U.S. and international students are fully eligible for the Inequality & Social Policy fellowship awards. Although the program began as a National Science Foundation initiative, it is now funded from other sources, allowing both U.S. and international students to participate equally.

Application forms are available on the web
inequality.hks.harvard.edu/apply

Submit applications via email (preferred)
inequality@harvard.edu

Or in hardcopy form to:
Pamela L. Metz
Multidisciplinary Program in Inequality & Social Policy
Harvard Kennedy School
79 JFK Street, Taubman 402 (Box 103)
Cambridge, MA 02138

Application deadline
Friday, June 1, 2018.