HARVARD Kennedy School
MALCOLM WIENER CENTER
for Social Policy

JAMES M. and CATHLEEN D. STONE Ph.D. SCHOLARS

Inequality and Social Policy

Letter of Recommendation

Students: Complete the section below, certifying that you waive or do not waive access to this letter, and submit this form with the rest of your application. This will serve as the official record on file.

Students should provide a copy to their recommenders—or simply confirm that access has been waived and alert them to the guidelines below. In particular, please highlight the information in the last paragraph (*Your recommendation*). It is *not* necessary for the faculty member to submit this form with their letter.

Applicant's name _____
Name

Recommender _____ _____
Recommender's name Recommender's department or affiliation

I understand that federal legislation provides me with a right of access to this recommendation, which may be waived, but that no school or person can require me to waive this right.

By selecting yes, I waive my right to access this letter of recommendation. ☐ **No** ☐ **Yes** _____
Date

To the recommender

This student is applying for a doctoral training fellowship with the Harvard Multidisciplinary Program in Inequality & Social Policy. Harvard PhD students in the social sciences who are entering their G-2 or G-3 year in September 2021 are eligible to apply. This includes PhD students from economics, education, government, health policy, political economy and government, public policy, psychology, sociology, social policy, and other doctoral programs with a social science focus.

Students selected for these Stone PhD Scholar fellowships receive valuable financial support to carry out their PhD research—generally a $32,000 fellowship reserved for use at the dissertation stage.

The Harvard Inequality & Social Policy program began in 1998 as a National Science Foundation IGERT initiative (Integrative Graduate Education and Research Training) to foster innovative graduate education across traditional disciplinary boundaries. Three hundred **Harvard PhD alumni** and **students**—representing the next generation of PhD scholars in the social sciences—have now come through the Inequality & Social Policy program.

Support from the James M. and Cathleen D. Stone Foundation in 2016 enabled the Harvard Kennedy School to continue and extend the Inequality & Social Policy program into new research areas. A central priority of the Stone PhD Scholar fellowships is to cultivate scholars who will develop new avenues of research on the concentration of income and wealth in the upper-reaches of the distribution — PhD scholars who will produce innovative empirical research to increase our understanding of the drivers of inequality and wealth concentration at the top of the distribution; its economic, political, and social consequences; and potential policies to counteract or mitigate its adverse effects.

Your recommendation: Faculty members who have received requests from multiple students may submit **a single letter** that briefly evaluates each student in turn. Note there are eight fellowships this year: Half of the eight Stone PhD scholarships are specifically designated for students who will undertake research on top-end income inequality or wealth concentration. The other four Stone PhD Scholar fellowships are open to other areas of inequality, broadly defined.

Student applications are due Monday, June 14. Faculty have until Friday, June 18, 2021, for recommendations.

You may e-mail your recommendation directly to **pamela_metz@harvard.edu**
Recommendations due: **Friday, June 18, 2021.** It is not necessary for faculty to submit this form with their letter.