CARE-UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA INNOVATION FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

2020 FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Frequently Asked Questions

Eligibility

-I’m graduating in June. Am I still eligible to apply? No. Applicants must be full-time graduate students enrolled in a master’s or doctoral program at one of the ten UC campuses [Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, Merced, Riverside, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Barbara, or Santa Cruz] and have an anticipated graduation date after October 1, 2020 to be eligible.

- Does an applicant need to have a specific country/research site in mind in order to apply? No. It won’t hurt to have site in mind, but if you do, flexibility would be to your advantage in case placement in that specific country is impossible. If you don’t have a specific site in mind, don’t put in extra work to figure out what context your project can apply to. CARE can help determine that.

- Does an applicant need to have a contact in the country in which they wish to conduct research? No. Applicants may assume that CARE has staff in your country of interest who will facilitate your experience. However, as noted above, flexibility is encouraged in case placement in that specific country is impossible. If you have any questions about your proposed research site, please direct them to Dane Wetschler, Dane.Wetschler@care.org.

- Are international students eligible to apply? Yes. However, students should individually consult with their campus administration to ensure that the visa status is not compromised by the international travel component.
Application

- Why do I need departmental approval to apply for this fellowship? This is UC fellowship meant to enhance your educational experience, but not to compete with any academic responsibilities or degree requirements you may have. Since the fellowship overlaps with the academic term in which you are enrolled full-time and requires time away from campus, your department must confirm that this opportunity does not conflict with any concurrent funding or fellowship requirements.

- Does the recommendation letter have to come from my academic advisor or PI? No. The recommendation letter may come from any UC faculty member familiar with you and your work who is able to provide a thoughtful, thorough recommendation.

- Are the application forms and templates available outside the proposal platform? Sample application forms and templates are available for you to view on our website in pdf: https://www.ucop.edu/research-initiatives/programs/innovation-opportunities/care-uc-fellowship.html. However we strongly recommend that you download the pC templates for completion as they are provided in Word formats and will include updates, if any, to the final formats.

Fellowship

- What will the fellowship time look like? The fellowship time is expected to be a combination of desk research, project preparation, and connecting with CARE teams around the world. The fellowship includes a 2-4 week in-country placement at a CARE site outside the US. Please see the RFP for details on the types of projects and time commitment of the fellowship.

- What will in-country experience look like for someone proposing a US-based project? Students who propose US-based projects may still choose to participate in an allied international placement to enhance their understanding of social, economic and cultural factors that influence interventions and solutions and how they may be adapted accordingly. Alternatively, CARE will work with individuals to construct a meaningful experience in the US.

- If my proposal is selected for the fellowship, will CARE work with me to refine the research/outcome plan to ensure that it reflects the organization’s goals?
Yes. The fellowship is an opportunity for Fellows to work together with staff from CARE, which is a prominent International NGO, to formulate a mutually beneficial, effective project that can be conducted within the timeframe.

-Is it expected that all research products be completed by the September showcase date? Yes. The fellowship cannot be extended beyond September 30, 2020. However, students have the option to independently explore with CARE opportunities to continue collaboration after the end of the fellowship period. This may include students finding other sources of funding to continue their work with CARE, and we encourage students who have this interest to discuss this individually with CARE and their academic advisors. Please make sure the proposal for this fellowship fits with the timeframe for this funding, even if you reference longer term goals you may pursue afterwards.