

Instructions for letter writers

Please tell us how well the student is doing in his or her departmental program of study and how well you think the student will do in the interdisciplinary PEPPP program. The IGERT PEPPP program (Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship for Politics, Economics, Psychology, and Public Policy) is a National Science Foundation funded graduate traineeship program for Ph.D. students in business, economics, political science, psychology, and public policy. The program is geared towards those who would like to participate in an interdisciplinary program that has the dual aim of advancing the social sciences while addressing policy relevant questions. The PEPPP program has three required courses on “modeling participation behavior and decision-making,” “causal inference and evaluation,” and “implementation, compliance, and principal-agent problems.” We are looking for students who are interested in developing better theoretical and empirical approaches to public policy problems by combining insights from across the social sciences. Therefore, we are especially interested in a potential student’s breadth of intellectual vision, tolerance for an interest in areas beyond his or her own discipline, and the ability to combine diverse intellectual materials in a new synthesis that will further the social sciences while also addressing important public policy topics.

The fellowship is a two-year fellowship with a \$30,000 per year stipend and \$10,000 for tuition and fees. NSF restricts eligibility to U.S. Citizens. We intend to draw trainees from graduate students entering either their second or third year of graduate studies.