

## **Research Assistant Opportunity: Data Collection and Cleaning**

### **Job Description:**

Professor Ebonya Washington (SIPA/Economics) is seeking 2-3 undergraduates to work as research assistants (RAs) as a part of a team working on a large-scale data collection project. Selected students will work 10-20 hours a week depending on student availability and be paid \$21.50/hr. Work will begin immediately and will continue throughout the fall semester with the possibility of renewal in the spring.

### **Job Duties:**

RAs will work on a variety of data collection tasks. These include collecting data through web searches, checking databases for accuracy, and other related data cleaning tasks. The only software required is Microsoft Excel. Although students will be part of a 7-8 person team, the majority of the work will be done independently and hours can be completed as the student wishes, within some guidelines. All work will be done remotely.

### **Project Description:**

Black, Latinx and Native Americans comprise less than 10% of PhD economists. Unfortunately, we do not have good data for the fraction they comprise of academic faculty. We aim to fill that knowledge gap using a panel dataset of snapshots of members of academic economic departments. We will follow individuals over time to get a handle on not just the numbers of underrepresented minorities at any one moment, but how their careers do or do not progress differently from white economists.

### **Required Qualifications:**

We are looking for undergraduates interested in gaining research experience. Those majoring in economics, sociology, political science, or a related discipline may find the experience particularly interesting and valuable, but students from any discipline are welcome to apply. Applicants can be in any year of their program. Selected students will be detail-orientated, responsive to feedback, and work well independently and as a part of a team. Microsoft Excel proficiency is a must.

### **To Apply:**

Please email a resume/CV and a cover letter to [Joshua.K.Thomas@columbia.edu](mailto:Joshua.K.Thomas@columbia.edu). In the cover letter, not exceeding one page (single-spaced), please include a brief description of yourself, your interest in the project, and why you would be a good fit for the position. In your email, please indicate whether you are or expect to be on any appointment. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until all positions are filled.