Center for Measurement Justice Dissertation Fellowship

The Center for Measurement Justice’s (CMJ) work is to inspire, prepare, and support a critical mass of measurement professionals and partners as they work towards a socially just assessment and measurement system. The CMJ Dissertation Fellowship Program seeks to encourage the professional development of educational assessment/measurement scholars who strive to disrupt the current white supremacist hegemony that plagues the current K-12 assessment system.

This fellowship program is targeted for members of racial and ethnic groups historically underrepresented in educational measurement. CMJ is committed to providing opportunities for students to (a) expand their networks, (b) build research and career skills, and (c) transition into professional roles.

Each year, CMJ funds a small group of outstanding advanced doctoral candidates so that they can devote themselves full-time to the completion of their dissertation. Each participant will receive a $30,000 stipend and will be expected to attend quarterly community of practice meetings.

Please review the eligibility requirements diligently before submitting your application. Three fellowships will be awarded this year, selected by members of the CMJ leadership team.

Completed applications must be submitted electronically no later than 11:59PM EST on Tuesday November 1, 2022.

Decisions will be made no later than March 1, 2023. Fellowships may begin no earlier than June 1, 2023.

In addition the criteria noted above, the selection committee will consider the following questions:

- To what extent does the research topic address sociopolitical injustices enacted in K-12 educational assessment processes?
- To what extent is the relevant research grounded in critical theory (e.g. feminist theory, Black feminist theory, critical race theory, queer theory, etc.) as applied in the field of measurement?
- To what extent is the study likely to yield new knowledge in the field of K-12 assessment practices?
- Are the claims, methodology and analysis plans described in sufficient detail in order to conduct this study?
• Is it feasible to complete the study during the fellowship timeline?
• To what extent does the proposal explain the issue that needs to be addressed, the design and logic of the study, sources of evidence, and the nature of the type of data and analysis.

Candidates will receive a confirmation email when their application has been submitted, as well as when letters of reference have been submitted to their application. It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure that these letters are submitted.

**Application Components**

1. **Application Form**
2. **Dissertation Abstract** (this is included in the application form)
3. **CV** (upload within online application form)
4. **Positionality Statement**: (1.5 pages max, 1.5 spaced)

Applicants will be asked to describe:

a) how their lived experiences and educational work have prepared them for doing research on this topic.

b) both in terms of privilege and marginalization, how their research (from the articulation of the research question to data interpretation) is informed by their sociopolitical identities.

5. **Dissertation Narrative**: No more than 8 pages should describe the dissertation. Please use the following format: 1.5-spaced, one-inch margins, each page should be numbered, and at least 11-point font. The header should include the fellow’s name and email address. Note. The bibliography does not count towards the 8 pages. Other supplemental materials, such as samples, charts, graphs, questionnaires, etc. may be submitted as an appendix and do not count towards the page limit.

The narrative should include:
• statement of the problem (issues being addressed),
• and an outline of any relevant literature and theoretical grounding. If preliminary findings or pilot data are available, these should be described briefly.
• the intended contribution to the field of assessment: any specific use cases as it relates to the field of educational assessment,
• the goals of the research project,
● the intended methods:
  ○ measurement tools and how the data will be collected, analyzed and interpreted,

The selection committee will be composed of both experts in the educational measurement field and other professionals that may not be experts in the field; therefore, the language specific to the field of measurement should cater to both audiences.

6. **Detailed Timeline:** The fellowship can begin as early as June 1, 2023. Applicants will be asked to provide a start and end date as well as dates when they expect to complete each phase of the dissertation (e.g. completion of data analysis, completion of individual chapters, and dissertation to committee.) Applicants should clearly indicate when they want the fellowship period to begin. They can include goals and activities that will precede the fellowship start date on the timeline, but the timeline should still include the fellowship start date.

7. **Graduate Transcript:** Applicants must upload a graduate transcript to their application form, an unofficial transcript will suffice.

8. **Letters of Recommendation:** Two letters of recommendation are required: one from the dissertation chair and a second professional reference. Only two letters will be considered. Letters of recommendation should be sent by the reference directly to us at cmj@measurementjustice.org.

**LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED**