

Position Vacancy Announcement

Part-Time Quantitative Research Fellowship (Fall 2021)

The Council for Court Excellence (CCE) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan civic organization that works to enhance the justice system in the District of Columbia to serve the public equitably. CCE identifies and proposes solutions by collaborating with diverse stakeholders to conduct research, advance policy, educate the public, and increase civic engagement. CCE does work related to the adult criminal legal system, the youth justice system, as well as the civil courts.

The Council for Court Excellence seeks Fall 2021 fellowship candidates who share CCE's mission to support research and data evaluation for two projects in our criminal justice portfolio. The fellowship will offer hands-on experience to exceptional graduate students planning a career in the social or data sciences, with opportunities to:

- Strengthen their understanding of D.C.'s complex justice system;
- Develop requests for information and data from governmental sources;
- Analyze government data related to various aspects of D.C.'s criminal legal continuum;
- Draft summaries of data findings that could be used in CCE publications (e.g. [D.C. Justice Systems Overview 2020](#));
- Support reforms related to the use of solitary confinement in jails and prisons;
- Work with a dedicated staff and volunteer board of lawyers, business leaders, judges, and civic leaders in an environment that is collaborative and intellectually rigorous.

Eligibility and Qualifications

Current MS/MA or PhD candidates or recent program graduates in the social or data sciences with an interest in criminal law are eligible.

The ideal candidate is experienced in social science research and data analysis, has direct experience with or knowledge of the criminal or civil justice systems, and can effectively and persuasively explain their skill sets to CCE staff members who do not have backgrounds in quantitative research or analysis. The ideal candidate is also driven to improve the justice system, is highly effective in a fast-paced environment, and has a strong sense of autonomy and a good sense of humor.

Responsibilities

We expect the fellow's work to focus on the quantitative data needs for two projects: 1) our upcoming 2021 D.C. Justice Systems Overview report, and 2) research related to the use of solitary confinement in D.C. Responsibilities will include: assisting CCE staff in identifying relevant data sources; developing and sending requests for information and data from

governmental sources; collecting and preparing quantitative data for analysis; conducting analysis and creating visualizations of various datasets related to justice-involved populations. This analysis will likely involve the implementation of standard statistical techniques (summary statistics, regression modeling, hazard modeling, etc.) and may also require the scraping and cleaning of some datasets provided. Finally, the fellow will be responsible for summarizing their findings to CCE staff, identifying priority visualizations from that data, and writing brief prose descriptions of their analyses.

Duration and Compensation

The fellow will be expected to work between 15-20 hours/week (or 2-3 full workdays) throughout the fall of 2021. The start date for the fellowship is flexible, with a target for late September or early October, and will end in January or February 2022, depending on the timely receipt of data. The fellow will be considered an independent contractor and will receive two stipend payments of \$2,000 each: one halfway through the semester and one at the end of the fellowship.

Application Procedure and Deadline

Email **one** PDF document containing all of the items listed below to **Casey Anderson** at casey.anderson@courtextcellence.org before September 30, 2021. Candidates will be considered on a rolling basis as applications are received.

- Cover letter
- Resume
- A list of at least three references
- Current transcript (unofficial is acceptable)
- Writing sample that reflects the applicant's own quantitative data analysis
 - The sample may be on any topic, but should be no more than 3 pages (excerpting is fine), not including code, bibliography, etc.

CCE is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. All qualified applicants will be considered without unlawful discrimination based on race, color, creed, national origin, sex, gender identity or expression, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, military status, prior record of arrest or conviction, citizenship status, or current employment status.

CCE values diverse experiences. Candidates are not required to possess **all** of the above listed qualifications, and people with varied skillsets are encouraged to apply. People with lived experience with the justice system (civil, juvenile, or criminal) are encouraged to apply. CCE depends on a diverse team and diverse perspectives to carry out its mission.

For more information about CCE and its work, please visit our website at www.courtextcellence.org.