We will be granting up to five full time pre-doctoral fellowships for the 2015-16 academic year at the Harvard Lab for Economic Applications and Policy (LEAP) to perform research with faculty and on their own. Our research group focuses on a broad range of topics in applied microeconomics with applications to economy policy. Current projects study the long-term impacts of education, the geography of intergenerational income mobility, and the determinants of innovation. Much of the research uses “big data” and quasi-experimental methods to identify causal effects and test the predictions of economic and sociological models. Recent results from these projects have been featured in the New York Times and cited in the President's State of the Union address.

The fellowship will include a variety of tasks that provide preparation for graduate school, such as analyzing data, writing and creating presentations, and editing research papers. In addition to working closely with faculty, LEAP fellows typically attend classes and seminars at Harvard and co-author one paper with other students or faculty. The program thus serves as a bridge between college and graduate school for students interested in empirical economics. For example, previous fellows have gone to the Ph.D. programs at Harvard or MIT after completing this position.

Applicants should be completing (or have completed) a Bachelors or Masters degree and have strong quantitative and programming skills. Candidates with research experience are strongly preferred, especially those with experience in Stata, SAS, or Matlab. Candidates need not be Economics majors, though they should have a strong interest and some experience with Economics. All candidates ideally begin on June 1, 2015 and work for us for one or two years before applying to graduate school in Economics or another quantitative social science.

To apply, please send your resume, transcript, and a writing sample to Augustin Bergeron at harvardleap@gmail.com. We intend to announce the 2015-16 LEAP Fellows on or around March 15, 2015.