Call for Applications:

Pre-Doctoral Fellowships on Carbon Pricing and Alternative Instruments in Future U.S. Energy and Climate Policy

Promoting and advancing scholarship on carbon pricing policy that accounts for political and institutional incentives and constraints can inform future climate change policy. In addition to research on the design of politically durable carbon-pricing policies, there is scope for work on how to integrate the incentives and design elements of carbon pricing in non-pricing policy instruments, such as clean energy standards and subsidies. Analyses, insights, and tools drawn from across the social sciences, including economics, political science, and law, can help enhance understanding of the political economy of U.S. energy and climate policy.

To encourage social science research on carbon pricing, the Harvard Environmental Economics Program, with the generous support of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, the HKS Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government, and the Harvard University Center for the Environment, is sponsoring four pre-doctoral fellowships for Harvard doctoral students. The fellowship will be awarded for a 16-month period by a selection panel including Joe Aldy (HKS), Steve Ansolabehere (Government/FAS), Jason Beckfield (Sociology/FAS), and Rob Stavins (HKS). The panel will assess each applicant's potential to contribute to important questions related to U.S. carbon pricing and climate policy, which can both advance scholarship and inform policy debates.

The fellowship will cover a research period from October 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023. The fellowship will provide a stipend of \$10,000. Proposals are due Tuesday September 6 and the awards will be announced by September 15, 2022. To be eligible for the fellowship, an applicant must be enrolled as a full-time doctoral student in economics, public policy, political science, or other social sciences program at Harvard University. The Harvard Environmental Economics Program strongly encourages applications from women, minorities, individuals with disabilities, and veterans.

Fellowship recipients will be expected to participate in a December 2022 Harvard workshop on carbon pricing and to produce a research paper by the end of the fellowship. To support the fellowship recipients' research, each recipient will be assigned to a faculty mentor and each recipient will be expected to participate in regular research team meetings with Professors Aldy and Stavins over the course of the fellowship period.

Applicants should submit by email a short research proposal consisting of no more than two pages of text and a CV to jason_chapman@hks.harvard.edu. The research proposal should include (1) a social science research topic and research question addressing the role of carbon pricing in future U.S. energy and climate policy; (2) a brief description of methods; and (3) a discussion of how this research could advance the literature and inform future climate policy. The proposal should also identify faculty members who could serve as potential mentors for this research project, including faculty who are not affiliated with the applicant's department or school.

By December 31, 2023, each fellow must provide the selection committee with a copy of a research paper on the role of carbon pricing in future U.S. energy and climate policy that was completed during the fellowship period.