Pre-Doctoral Research Fellow Position

We are looking to hire several pre-doctoral research fellows to be part of the Global Capital Allocation Project Lab. The research fellow positions are based at the Stanford Graduate School of Business under the supervision of Professor Matteo Maggiori and Professor Antonio Coppola. Pre-doctoral research fellows begin in the summer of 2025 and are appointed for up to two years (one year, renewable for a second). You can find out more about our work on our Lab’s website: www.globalcapitalallocation.com.

A substantial component of the work focuses on big-data applications in international macroeconomics and finance. The Global Capital Allocation Project (GCAP) Lab mixes data, economic theory, and analytics to understand how capital moves around the world with the aim of improving international economic policy. Current projects include, for example: (i) mapping how global firms finance themselves through foreign subsidiaries, often shell companies in tax havens; (ii) understanding capital allocation and financial integration in the Eurozone; (iii) understanding China’s rising presence in global financial markets; and (iv) understanding how geopolitics and economic statecraft work.

Results from the research are of policy relevance and of interest to general media (such as The Economist or Wall Street Journal). While the research fellows’ focus is on learning and producing academic research, the fellows also have the opportunity to interface with policy institutions and to produce publicly available statistics and graphical interfaces that help communicate the research to the broader public.

The research fellows will be dedicated to Professor Maggiori and Professor Coppola but will also work closely and directly with all members of the lab, including other lab co-directors such as Jesse Schrager at Columbia Business School, co-authors on academic papers, PhD students, and other research fellows. This is a vibrant community with plenty of interaction and the expectation of working collaboratively in smaller groups and then presenting research progress to the broader group.

In addition to the research training, the fellows have the opportunity to take one class for credit at Stanford each quarter. Over the course of the two-year fellowship, this amounts to taking 6-8 classes, and at the end most fellows have training equivalent to the first year of the PhD in Economics. This significantly improves their preparation for future graduate studies in economics.

Previous predoctoral students have gone on to PhD programs in Economics at Stanford, MIT, and Harvard as well as in Finance at Stanford and Chicago, among others. For a list of placements see the “Alumni” section: https://www.globalcapitalallocation.com/about-us.

The application deadline is October 18th, 2024. Applications submitted after the deadline will be considered on a rolling basis. In exceptional cases and if you are in demonstrated need of a fast-track decision, for example to meet a deadline on another opportunity, we offer expedited reviews.

The requirements for the position are the same as those for the Stanford GSB Research Fellows program, which can be found here: https://www.gsb.stanford.edu/programs/research-fellows/admission.
A preferred candidate would have a bachelor’s degree or its equivalent, a strong quantitative background, excellent computer programming skills, and a serious interest in pursuing research in economics. A background in economics is helpful but not necessary. Previous research experience is a plus. For one of the positions, U.S. citizenship may be prioritized during the selection process due to the nature and requirements of some administrative datasets.

The research fellow is appointed as non-matriculated graduate student at Stanford and the fellowship offers tuition, health insurance, a living stipend ($54,600 per year in 2024-25), and a housing, transportation, and tax supplement ($8,000). Successful international applications will be sponsored for J1 visas. Students eligible for OPT are encouraged to use it during the fellowship.

To apply visit the page [https://www.gsb.stanford.edu/programs/research-fellows/admission](https://www.gsb.stanford.edu/programs/research-fellows/admission) and select Professors Maggiori and Coppola under the Dedicated Track option.

The required materials are:

1) Statement of purpose describing your interest in the position, your familiarity with programming languages (e.g., Python, Stata, R, MATLAB, and any others), and your prior experience as a research assistant and/or with independent research projects. Please note that the application portal offers candidates the option to upload a statement of purpose or answer questions directly on the portal, feel free to do either/or (but no need to both include a statement of purpose and answer the questions).

2) Your CV.

3) An up-to-date transcript (unofficial or official).

4) The names and contact details of two reference letter writers. Note that the deadline for the letters to be received is also October 18th, 2024, so that by that date the complete application (including the letters) needs to be submitted.

Short-listed applicants will be contacted in late October to complete a technical exercise and a remote interview. Please note that contacting the faculty directly about this position is discouraged given the high number of applicants. Rejected applicants will be notified in early November.