**2024 STAARS Fellowship Application Outline**

Please use this form as a tool for collecting responses while you prepare your application. You **must** enter and submit the [online application](https://cornell.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_d57oXOVmRTH6NUy) for your submission to be considered. However, the online application will only save unsubmitted responses entered on the same computer with the same browser. It is advised that you collect all the outlined information before starting the application to avoid issues.

The deadline for submissions is **January 19, 2024 at 11:59 New York Time**. Upon submission you will be directed to a confirmation screen, which indicates that we have successfully received your materials. You should receive notice about the status of your application by late March 2024.

**Personal Information**

1. Name (as it appears on passport)
	1. Surname (e.g. Smith)
	2. Other names (e.g. Jane Marie)
2. Gender
3. Nationality
4. Current country of residence
5. Email
6. Telephone (with country code)
7. Physical address (where postal mail can be received for U.S. visa purposes)
8. Date of PhD completion, or expected completion
	1. Month of completion
	2. Year of completion
9. Institution where you received (or will receive) your degree
10. Current employer
11. Current job title
12. Have you applied to STAARS (or STAAARS+) before? (*For admin purposes only.)*
	1. If yes, year(s) of application

**Proposed Research**

1. Title of proposed STAARS research
2. How many data sets will you use for the STAARS research?

**Data Set (asked for each data set)**

1. Full name of data set
2. [Unit of observation](https://dimewiki.worldbank.org/Unit_of_Observation)
3. Sample size
4. Do you currently possess the data set?
5. Is this data set publicly available?
	1. If so, please provide the link to the data website or download location
6. If you do not possess this data set, please explain in detail when and how you plan to obtain it. Please note that for non-public data, you will be required to provide proof of permission from the data owner in the file submission section.

**Experience & Goals**

1. Rate the level of experience with the following software and tools – options: None, Some, Intermediate, Proficient, Not applicable)
	1. Stata
	2. R
	3. MATLAB
	4. SPSS
	5. Python
	6. GIS/QGIS
	7. Google Earth Engine
	8. Google Suite (Drive, Calendar, Sheets, Slides)
	9. GitHub
	10. LaTeX
	11. Citation managers (e.g. Zotero, Mendeley)
	12. Other (specify)
2. Please tell us about any other goals you have for the STAARS fellowship, including specific skills you would like to develop through the fellowship.

**File Upload and Certification**

Please submit a .ZIP file or merged PDF file that includes your surname at the beginning of the file name (example: Surname\_STAARSApplication.zip). The ZIP folder or merged PDF file should include the following documents:

1. Research proposal following the guidelines in the RFP
2. CV or resume
3. Data permission documentation for any private data sources
4. A letter of support from your employer/institution
5. A photocopy of your passport biodata page, and, if applicable, any current US visas.

**Explanation of Required Documents**

The following documents must be included in your submitted application. They should be combined, either within a [zipped folder](https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/zip-and-unzip-files-8d28fa72-f2f9-712f-67df-f80cf89fd4e5) or [merged as a single PDF](https://www.adobe.com/acrobat/online/merge-pdf.html), and submitted in the File Upload section of the online application (see previous section).

1. Research Proposal (2500 word maximum) should include:
	* Title of the proposed research
	* Targeted country(-ies)
	* Introduction and motivation that includes clear statement of research objectives and hypotheses
	* Description of data source(s) and any prior experience working with the proposed data
	* Proposed methodology
	* If applicable, summary of any preliminary results
	* Proposed timeline for the research
	* Bibliographic references (not included in the 2500 words)
2. Current CV or resume
3. If proposing to use data that are not publicly available, a letter or other documentation from the data steward(s) indicating that you have access to use the data for the proposed project
4. Letter of support from your supervisor, clearly indicating that you will be granted time to work on this project, if selected
5. Photocopy of your passport biodata page and, if applicable, any current US visa