We are looking to hire 2-4 full-time pre-doctoral fellows for the academic year 2017-18 to join our research group (all positions for academic year 2016-2017 are filled). The positions will be based at the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research (SIEPR) under the direction of faculty at Stanford and Berkeley and collaborators at other universities. Our research group focuses on a broad range of topics in applied microeconomics with applications to economic policy. Current projects study the long-term impacts of education, intergenerational income mobility, the relationship between income and mortality rates, 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 as research assistants, SIEPR pre-doctoral fellows can audit classes and attend seminars at Stanford and Berkeley and co-author papers with other students or faculty members. Fellows will have office space adjacent to faculty members’ offices and will interact with professors, graduate students, and other collaborators regularly in a team-oriented lab environment. The program serves as an ideal bridge between college and graduate school for students interested in empirical economics. Most previous fellows have gone on to top Ph.D. programs after completing this position. Salary will be competitive.

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, Matlab, or Python. Candidates need not be Economics majors, though they should have a strong interest in and some experience with Economics. Candidates would ideally begin on June 1, 2017 and work for us for one or two years before applying to graduate school in Economics or another quantitative social science.

To apply, please upload your cover letter (optional), resume, transcripts, and a writing sample through our group's online form.

Questions can be directed to Priyanka Shende at chettylab@gmail.com. We will review applications, conduct interviews, and make offers in two rounds: one in mid-fall and one in late-winter. Applications received by October 30, 2016, will be eligible for the first round. First-round decisions will be announced around November 15, 2016. All applications received before March 1 will be considered for the second round, and those decisions will be made around March 15, 2017.
Frequently Asked Questions

1. Do you sponsor visas for international candidates?
   Yes, we sponsor J-1 and H1-B visas.

2. What kind of writing sample should I submit?
   The writing sample should ideally be an economics research paper, but you may submit whatever you feel best demonstrates your analytic and writing abilities. It can be any length.

3. Can I get feedback on my application?
   Given the number of applications we receive we cannot provide individual feedback.

4. What are you looking for in an applicant?
   Successful applicants have strong transcripts including advanced courses in economics, math, or computer science. We look for demonstrated interest in and experience with economics research, through the writing sample and resume. US citizens with a background in computer science are particularly encouraged to apply.

5. Are there any summer research assistant opportunities?
   Our group only hires full-year pre-doctoral fellows. We encourage students to apply in the final year of their undergraduate or master’s program.