



Buffett Institute Community-Based Research Fellowship 2018

This grant is open to Northwestern undergraduates as an opportunity for participation in community-based research. Community-based research (CBR) combines community knowledge and university knowledge to address global issues through actionable research.

- Partner organizations work with CBR Fellows to co-identify research topics and methods that are action-oriented and aim to produce positive change.
- CBR Fellows apply academic learning to real-world issues and collaboratively produce findings to support the sustainability of community-driven initiatives by: documenting community experiences, testing assumptions, and providing guidance for future practice.
- The research allows our global community partners to make informed decisions, ensure outcomes achieve developmental objectives, and model what development practices work and why.

Grant recipients must participate in orientation on theory and research methods through Spring Quarter 2018 course *INTL_ST_390-0 Special Topics in International Studies: Community-Based Partnership Research in International Development* and supplemental training.

Partners

Students may apply to perform research with a pre-approved Buffett Institute global partner, or may propose research with a global partner outside of the Buffett partnership network. Buffett global partners include:

- [Amizade](#)
- [Foundation for Sustainable Development](#)
- [Institute for Central American Development Studies](#)
- [Pachaysana](#)
- [Child Family Health International](#)

Qualifications and Eligibility

- This grant is open to Northwestern undergraduate students from all majors
- Student must possess prior field experience
- The ideal applicant:
 - Reflects maturity and alignment with values of community-based research
 - Is flexible and adaptable
 - Demonstrates motivation and accountability
 - Is proficient in the language of the host community
- Preferred:
 - Previous experience with assessment or coursework in qualitative research methodologies
- The grant may not be used to pay for language study, study-abroad programs, internships or participation in volunteer programs. Scope of research must be community-based and developed in partnership with partner organization.

Dates

- Application deadline: February 1, 2018
- Spring Quarter (April 3-June 15, 2018): Community-Based Research course (*INTL_ST_390-0 Special Topics in International Studies: Community-Based Partnership Research in International Development*) and biweekly co-curricular training meetings
 - Organizational research supervisor and CBR Fellow communicate throughout Spring quarter course in order to develop a tentative workplan

- Summer 2018: CBR Fellows are expected to spend at least 6 weeks in-country to perform the duties associated with research. Exact dates will be determined in conversation between CBR Fellow and partner organization.

Requirements Upon Admission

- Enrollment in Spring Quarter 2018 Community-Based Research course
- Participation in Spring Quarter 2018 biweekly supplemental training meetings with CBR Fellow cohort
- Secure a Northwestern faculty research advisor, and maintain communication with advisor throughout research process. Your research advisor will serve as your Principal Investigator (PI) for the Northwestern Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval process.
- Commit to ongoing communication with Buffett Institute staff through biweekly progress reports
- Commit to ongoing communication with organizational research supervisor through biweekly progress reports and check-in meetings
- Provide partner organization, community members involved in research process, and Buffett Institute staff with final report and presentation on all collected data, observations and findings

Research agenda and methods will be mutually agreed upon in consultation with partner organization.

Potential responsibilities include:

- Conducting assessment of recent organizational work/community engagement
- Researching the evolution, continuation, sustainability of efforts initiated by/with community partners
- Conducting focus groups, individual interviews, and surveys with organizational and community partners
- Identify resources for observation, impact evaluation and data collection

Funding

- All CBR Fellows will receive up to \$7500 in funding for travel, living expenses, immunizations, travel medical insurance and stipend

Application

- All applicants must complete application form on [FluidReview](#) and submit a faculty letter of recommendation by February 1, 2018
- If your proposed research partner is *not a pre-approved Buffett global partner* you must additionally submit:
 - 2-page proposal introducing partner organization and outlining research
 - Letter from your proposed partner organization supervisor outlining scope of research and partnership

Questions?

If you would like to discuss if your proposed collaborative research qualifies for this grant, or if you have questions, please contact Emory Erker-Lynch at emory.erkerlynch@northwestern.edu or 847-467-5728.