



APPLICATION FORM: 2026 SPRING DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS CHALLENGE

Deadline for Proposals: April 26, 2026 at 11:59 PM Pacific Time

To apply, complete this application form, attach a detailed 2-page project proposal following the instructions below, and fill out the budget template to estimate project costs. Submit the application as a single PDF file using the online platform [Submittable.com](https://submittable.com). Please contact Sam Bordia (bordia@berkeley.edu) at CEGA with any questions.

INVESTIGATOR NAME(S):
UNIVERSITY & DEPARTMENT(S):
E-MAIL(S):
PHD YEAR:
FACULTY SPONSOR:
TITLE OF PROJECT:
COUNTRY:
PROJECT FIELD OF STUDY (E.G. EDUCATION, AGRICULTURE, HEALTH):
FUNDING AMOUNT REQUESTED:
IMPLEMENTING AND/OR POLICY PARTNER (IF APPLICABLE):
DATA SOURCE CLASSIFICATION (PRIMARY OR SECONDARY):
PROPOSED METHODOLOGY (E.G. QUALITATIVE, RCT, NATURAL EXPERIMENT, DIFFERENCE-IN-DIFFERENCE, RD):
STAGE (SCOPING, PILOT, FULL-SCALE):
BRIEF DESCRIPTION (APPROX 100 WORDS): Please write your summary for a lay audience.
<i>Tell us about the results from previous CEGA-funded projects, including any publications, partnerships, and policy impacts:</i>

PROPOSAL: Please attach a detailed research project proposal (two pages or less, 12-point font), addressing the following:

1. Clearly state the problem that motivates your work and the research question(s) you aim to address. Describe existing data or observations that provide motivation and context for your study. What is your hypothesis, and what approach (including analytic methods) will you use to test your hypothesis?
2. What is the new and unique contribution of your study, and how does it extend



existing research and/or knowledge? If applicable, describe the potential of your work to influence public policy/decision-making and the extent to which you will collaborate with (policy) partners. If you plan to work with existing data, what is your plan for gaining access to the data (if you don't have access already)?

3. If you were a member of the selection committee, what concerns would you have about the proposal? What logistical or analytic challenges do you anticipate, and how will you address these risks?
4. What are some (if any) ethical considerations you are taking into account in your proposed study? What challenges do you anticipate? Please think along the lines of personnel, participants, and/or data. Reference CEGA's [Ethical Best Practices Guide](#) to reflect upon this.
5. How will you ensure your research is transparent and that your data and results are made available to the public?



BUDGET TEMPLATE: 2026 DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS CHALLENGE

Please estimate project costs using the template below (following guidelines included in the [RFP](#)). Note that the maximum request is \$20,000 (average award will be between \$5,000 - \$20,000) and the selection committee has discretion to award the dollar amount they feel is appropriate. In the second table, please list other funding you have received for this research project, if any.

EXPENSE DESCRIPTION	COST
Field Supplies:	
Data Collection:	
Data Analysis:	
Other:	
TOTAL:	

OTHER FUNDERS	AMOUNT