



AP

NORC⁷⁵

at the UNIVERSITY of CHICAGO

The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Journalism Fellowship Program

Deadline to Apply: May 16, 2016

About the Fellowship Program

The AP-NORC fellowship program is designed to address the need for more journalists with the skills required to do research-based enterprise reporting. The 2016 Journalism Fellow will focus on the economics of Americans working longer. As an AP-NORC fellow, you will develop the analytical research skills needed to create a sustained series of news reports that address the economics of the aging workforce. The skill set you develop will be useful throughout your career and can be applied to many different issues. As a fellow, you will:

- Contribute to and report on an in-depth research project on older Americans' expectations and experiences with work and retirement as they age.
- Be mentored by a University of Chicago faculty member.
- Have opportunities to take courses and attend conferences and workshops.
- Have access to NORC resources, University of Chicago faculty, and special courses.
- Develop goals for the term of the fellowship in collaboration with senior AP-NORC staff and earn a performance bonus based on successful achievement of these mutually agreed upon goals.
- Develop and enhance social science, econometric, statistical, and other analytical research skills needed to explore the aging workforce and its economic and policy implications for employers, workers, and government.
- Work one-on-one with an AP editor. Produce in-depth research-based enterprise journalism distributed nationally and worldwide by AP.

The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research, in partnership with The Associated Press Media Editors (APME) and with funding from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, is proud to offer a national competition for a 10-month fellowship, which is open to career journalists. For more information, visit www.apnorc.org.

Potential Fellows

This position is open to career journalists with some experience covering business and economics and with demonstrated interest in reporting on issues around the aging population. Additional criteria are as follows:

- Must be a journalist with at least five years of experience. Journalists working in text, radio, television, and online are eligible to apply.
- Should have a track record that demonstrates ability to translate economic or academic research into journalism. Formal training or experience in economics or social science research methods would be beneficial, but is not required.
- Should have a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.
- Must be willing to relocate to Chicago. Consideration may be given to a highly qualified fellow who wishes to work in Washington, DC, instead of Chicago.
- Relocation support is available. NORC will provide office space on the University of Chicago campus.
- The fellow is expected to begin work and training in September 2016.



A Unique Fellowship Opportunity to Build Enterprise Reporting Skills

As an AP-NORC Journalism Fellow, you will spend 10 months working for the AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research, with access to the research and academic resources of NORC at the University of Chicago and the University of Chicago itself, including members of its renowned faculty across the social sciences.

- The fellowship will provide a highly competitive 10-month salary of \$80,000 plus benefits.
- There is a possible performance bonus of up to \$5,000.
- At NORC, you will participate in a highly individualized training program, including a mix of one-on-one tutorials, seminars, and the opportunity to audit selected University of Chicago courses.
- AP will supervise your reporting activities and distribute your work to its global worldwide audience and its thousands of subscribers and customers across all media platforms.
- Relocation support is available. NORC will provide office space on the University of Chicago campus.
- A budget is available for travel, coursework, conferences, access to experts, and short courses at other institutions.
- The fellowship will begin September 2016 for a 10-month fixed term.
- The deadline to apply is May 16, 2016.
- Apply online at www.apnorc.org.

About The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research

The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research combines the power of objective research and the highest-quality journalism to bring important information and analysis of the key issues of the day to people across the nation and throughout the world.

The Associated Press (AP) is the essential global news network, delivering fast, unbiased news from every corner of the world to all media platforms and formats. Founded in 1846, AP today is the most trusted source of independent news and information. On any given day, more than half the world's population sees news from AP.

NORC at the University of Chicago is an independent research organization headquartered in downtown Chicago, with additional offices in the University of Chicago campus, the DC Metro area, Atlanta, Boston, and San Francisco. NORC's 75 years of leadership and experience in data collection, analysis, and dissemination—coupled with deep subject matter expertise—provides the foundation for effective solutions to issues confronting society.

Through their unique partnership, the two organizations carry out and analyze independent research in the public interest on newsworthy topics, and use the power of journalism to tell the stories the research reveals.

"The fellowship offers a unique opportunity to do the kind of deep-dive journalism that is all too rare these days. Away from the pressures of the newsroom, fellows have open access to people working on the forefront of aging research. It's just a great chance to do truly impactful reporting."

-Adam Allington, current AP-NORC Journalism Fellow

Success Story: The Impact of an AP-NORC Journalism Fellowship

Matt Sedensky: AP-NORC Journalism Fellow on the Economics of Aging and Work

"AP was the beneficiary of Matt's participation in the fellowship. He broke news about public attitudes toward aging and work, and his stories, accompanied by photo and video, became the centerpiece of our Aging America package, a joint AP-APME project. The stories he developed were exceptionally well received among AP members and clients. They would not have been written had it not been for the fellowship. We continue to draw on Matt's expertise developed during his time at AP-NORC."

-Carole Feldman, Director, News Operations and Finance, The Associated Press

Matt Sedensky, an AP reporter whose beat included issues of aging, was named the inaugural fellow for the AP-NORC Journalism Fellowship on the Economics of Aging and Work. His fellowship began in March 2013.

During his fellowship, Sedensky and his AP-NORC Center colleagues conducted an important baseline survey of older Americans about their plans for work and retirement. Sedensky was a member of the survey team, a co-author of its report, and wrote the AP stories that disseminated the findings. Through his journalism, the findings were brought to the attention of policymakers and the general public.

- 2.6 billion people: The size of the online audience for outlets posting the Working Longer stories.
- 450 radio stations broadcasting AP Radio News featured the survey results.
- Spokesperson: Sedensky appeared on national and local TV and radio, including Fox Business News and NPR, to discuss his journalism.
- Sedensky's stories appeared on the front pages of more than 85 newspapers across the country.
- Huffington Post, CBS News, and Forbes used the poll as a means to discuss problems with retirement savings and government benefits for the elderly.

The fellowship clearly achieved its goal of providing Sedensky with in-depth training in the skills of data-driven journalism, which will serve him well throughout his career and enable him to train others in the newsroom. It also gave Sedensky the time to produce more than a dozen text and multimedia stories related to the topic of the fellowship that received wide attention in media of all formats.

Following his fellowship, Sedensky was named to AP's national reporting team. He also won the 2015 feature writing award from the APME for his reporting on aging workers during his fellowship.

As a 2016-2017 AP-NORC Journalism Fellow, you will build on this success and continue to move the needle of public understanding on the issue of the economics of the aging workforce.

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How to Apply

- Applications and more information are available online at www.apnorc.org.
- The deadline to apply is May 16, 2016.
- Candidates need to submit a resume/CV.
- Finalists will be asked to submit a personal statement, a proposal for research, work samples, and three letters of recommendation. One of the letters of recommendation should come from your current supervisor. Freelancers should submit a recommendation from a recent editor.