

The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research

Journalism Fellowship on the Economics of Aging and Work



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, announce a national competition open to mid-career journalists. For more information and application: http://www.apnorc.org/

About the Fellowship

This fellowship is designed to address the need for more journalists with the skills required to do research-based enterprise reporting. The fellowship will focus on the economics of working longer. The skill set developed will be useful throughout a journalist's career and can be applied to many different issues.

- Learn economic and analytical research skills needed in research-based enterprise reportingg
 Senior NORC scientist as mentor
- Access to NORC resources, University of Chicago faculty, and special courses
- Write in-depth stories distributed nationally and worldwide by The AP
 - Member of the AP-APME special project on "Aging America"
 - Write regular stories for distribution by The AP
 - Opportunity to pursue local or regional interest stories related to the national project
- Participate in original survey on retirement planning issues facing the baby boom generation



Eligibility

National competition open to career journalists with at least five years' experience and currently employed by The AP or any APME news organization.

- All media welcome—text, radio, television, and online
- Job leave—must be guaranteed employment after the fellowship
- Experience and interest—two years' experience covering business and economics and/or demonstrated interest in reporting on issues around the aging population; some formal training in economics and/or statistics and data analysis is preferred but not required
- Body of work—track record demonstrating interest in translating economic and academic research into journalism

Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents eligible to work in the U.S. and willing to relocate to Chicago. Consideration will be given to an applicant wishing to work in Washington D.C. 17 percent of people age 65 and older were either in the workforce or looking for work in 2009.

A Residential Fellowship in Chicago

The fellow will spend one year working at The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research in Chicago 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 economics faculty.

- The fellowship will provide a salary of up to \$100,000 plus full benefits, highly competitive for a journalist living and working in Chicago
- NORC will provide the fellow with a highly individualized training program including a mix of one-on-one tutorials with renowned experts in economics and research methodology, and the opportunity to audit selected University of Chicago courses
- AP will supervise the fellow's reporting activities, including the opportunity to join the reporting team for the AP/APME Aging America project
- Relocation expenses will be provided, as will a budget for travel and conferences, interviews, access to experts, and short courses at other institutions
- The fellowship will begin in March 2013 for a 12 month fixed term
- Apply online at www.apnorc.org
- Applications are due by November 30, 2012



The Underlying Issue: The Economics of Working Longer

In the United States the older population, those 60 and older, is growing rapidly. In 2000, older Americans comprised 12 percent of the U.S. population, a number that is projected to grow to 30 percent by 2039. An increasing proportion of older adults are staying in the workforce. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 17 percent of people age 65 and older were either in the workforce or looking for work in 2009.

At the same time, older Americans are becoming healthier, with the period of illness at the end of life growing shorter. This means that older adults who opt to keep working may well stay on the job even longer than in the past.

This pattern of larger numbers of Americans choosing—or being forced by the economy—to work longer has important economic, political, and social implications.

The Journalism Fellowship program is designed to increase public understanding of the issues around working longer and the aging workforce. The program will provide the AP-NORC fellow with the training, skills, writing opportunity and – perhaps most important – time to become expert in producing research-based enterprise journalism on this important topic.

How to Apply

Applications and more information are available online at www.apnorc.org Application deadline: November 30, 2012.

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 is the world's essential news organization, providing fast, accurate, and unbiased news to all media platforms and formats worldwide.

NORC at the University of Chicago is one of the oldest and most respected, independent research institutions in the world.

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.

With funding provided by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, and in partnership with the APME, the AP-NORC Center initiated the Journalism Fellowship on the Economics of Aging and Work to create research-based journalism exploring the economic implications of the aging workforce.

AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research NORC at the University of Chicago

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