



ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE



GRADUATE RESEARCH POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT 2007–2008

The Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance is an independent committee created by Congress to advise Congress and the Secretary of Education on student aid and higher education policy. The primary purpose of the Committee is to make recommendations that will maintain and increase access to postsecondary education for low- and moderate-income students. As part of its legislative mandate, the Committee has dedicated itself to articulating the current state of access by developing four reports on the condition of access—*Access Denied: Restoring the Nation's Commitment to Equal Educational Opportunity*; *Empty Promises: The Myth of College Access in America*; *The Student Aid Gauntlet: Making Access to College Simple and Certain*; and *Mortgaging our Future: How Financial Barriers to College Undercut America's Global Competitiveness*.

For the 2007-08 academic year, the Committee is offering a research assistantship on a highly selective basis to a graduate student interested in access and persistence to college for low- and moderate-income students. This assistantship will allow the student to enhance his or her research and policy analysis skills as well as develop an understanding of higher education policymaking at the federal level. The research assistant will work with the Advisory Committee's professional staff in various aspects of the Committee's work, such as the writing of policy briefs and reports for Committee members, the higher education community, congressional staff, and officials from the Department of Education.

Prospective candidates should have strong quantitative and data analysis skills, substantial research experience (preferably with NCES databases), excellent oral and written skills, and an interest in education policy. Doctoral students are preferred for this position although advanced master's students may be considered. Candidates should submit a cover letter that includes a statement of research interests, resume, and a short writing sample to:

Hope Gray, Executive Officer
hope.gray@ed.gov

NO PHONE CALLS. PLEASE E-MAIL APPLICATIONS.

This position will involve approximately 15 to 20 hours of work per week. Ideally, this work would be conducted at the Committee's office in Washington DC. However, candidates needing to work off-site will also be considered for the position, and work hours and location can be arranged to accommodate the student's class schedule. The stipend for this assistantship will be competitive and will be arranged based upon the student's qualifications and experience.

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