Request for Letters of Interest
Competition to Conduct Analysis of HUD’s Randomized Evaluation Data
(Moving to Opportunity and Family Options Study)

HUD is pleased to announce a request for letters of interest from qualified researchers to access datasets from its completed randomized evaluations. By making randomized evaluation datasets from completed studies available to qualified researchers, we anticipate more rapid knowledge discovery and evidence-building beyond the original scope of the projects.

In partnership with the Census Bureau’s Center for Administrative Records Research and Applications, HUD anticipates a Spring 2017 posting of a Request for Proposals (RFP) to access two of its randomized evaluation datasets. In order to gauge interest among the research community in accessing these datasets, HUD is requesting a letter of interest from qualified researchers who might consider responding to the RFP.

As background, HUD and the Census Bureau entered into an Inter-Agency Agreement (IAA) to make selected randomized evaluation datasets from HUD-sponsored evaluations available to qualified researchers via the Census Bureau’s Center for Administrative Records Research and Applications (CARRA). In Spring 2017, the first such randomized evaluations (Moving to Opportunity and Family Options) are expected to be accessible via CARRA. (The evaluations are described at https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/mto.html and at https://www.huduser.gov/portal/family_options_study.html.

The letter of interest is a first step in the application process for access to the datasets; it does not guarantee access. Qualified researchers will then be invited to submit a formal proposal for review by the Census Bureau and by HUD.

Approved projects can access the datasets at one of 24 Federal Statistical Research Data Centers (FSRDCs)1 and must obtain Special Sworn Status with the Census Bureau.

What to include in the letter (not to exceed 2 pages – 11pt font and double-spaced):

1. Researcher’s name and affiliation
2. Mailing address, email, and phone number
3. Which HUD dataset you are interested in accessing (one HUD study-dataset per submission)
4. Research question(s) you are considering
5. Types of analysis you are considering and other datasets that will be linked/used in the analysis
6. Description of experience conducting similar research
7. Email to EvalData@huduser.gov

1 A list of FSRDCs and their locations can be found at http://www.census.gov/about/adrm/fsrdc/locations.html. An additional six FSRDCs are scheduled to open in 2017: Georgetown University, Illinois-Urbana Champaign, Kentucky-Lexington, Philadelphia, Rocky Mountain-Colorado, and Texas-Austin.