



WERA Visiting Researcher Awards 2020

Supported by the World Education Research Association (WERA), International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA), Diversity in Education Research (DiVER), University of Hamburg; DIPF | Leibniz-Institute for Research and Information in Education, and the American Educational Research Association (AERA)

As part of WERA's efforts to contribute to the advancement of education research, we offer academics the "WERA Visiting Researcher Awards." The awardees are provided an opportunity to visit highly regarded research labs or professional or education research institutions in order to build their capacity and enhance their qualifications for an international academic career in education science.

As part of this program, WERA collaborates with excellent partners who have an outstanding international portfolio of advancing education research. Together, WERA and their partners offer academics the opportunity to visit:

- the IEA Research and Analysis (RandA) Unit in Hamburg, Germany and the Diversity in Education Research Lab (DiVER) at the University of Hamburg.
- the DIPF | Leibniz-Institute for Research and Information in Education in Frankfurt/Main, Germany.
- the American Educational Research Association (AERA), Washington, D.C, United States.

This award enables visiting researchers to develop their own research project while benefiting from the individual support of IEA, DiVER Hamburg and DIPF experts working in different fields related to international large-scale assessments, especially with a focus on diversity in education. Those interested in visiting at AERA will have the opportunity to work on a research policy topic (among those the visitor advances) and related programmatic activity of international scope and relevance.

Main features of the visiting researcher award

The main aims of the programme are to:

- Contribute to enhancing the research projects/interests of the academic visitors by providing support from IEA, DiVER, DIPF, or AERA experts;
- Provide visiting researchers with direct access to IEA data and resources in order to help them carry out their research projects; in the case of AERA, provide opportunities to examine extant databases or indicators on R&D issues important to advancing education research as an international field.
- Provide the opportunity to collaborate with IEA, DiVER and DIPF research staff and AERA doctoral-level staff and promote networking within a worldwide research community.



Expectations and advice for the visiting researcher:

- Visiting academic researchers at the University of Hamburg are expected to work on their research project using IEA data or data from research on multilingual development in a longitudinal perspective; academic visitors at DIPF are required to work on research projects highly corresponding with DIPF's activities; academic visitors at AERA are expected to work on a research policy issue of international importance with attention to relevant data;
- Visiting academic researchers are encouraged to initiate a collaboration with our experts on a specific research project or research policy, ideally aiming for a joint publication;
- Visiting academic researchers are expected to present their work within a joint IEA-DiVER-colloquium, DIPF event, or AERA convening, respectively;
- Visiting academic researchers are expected to report on their visit and its results to WERA. The reports will be published on the WERA websites and might be published as well on the DiVER, IEA or DIPF, or AERA websites.

Awardees will be provided with:

- An academic mentor at each institution for the duration of their stay;
- Expert support for specific topics on request;
- A working place, a personal computer with basic software (upon request), access to internet, printer, telephone, and basic office supplies.

The visit will last six weeks mid-September to mid-November 2020. Exact dates will be negotiated with the awardee. Shortened or extended visits may be arranged upon request.

Finances

Awardees will receive a grant of € 3,000 from the IEA or the DIPF respectively or \$3,500 US from the AERA that is intended to cover flight, public transport, accommodation, health insurance, meals and other subsistence costs during the stay. The University of Hamburg (in Hamburg) or the DIPF (in Frankfurt) will organize the accommodation. AERA will seek to assist in locating affordable housing.

Eligibility

To qualify for the visiting researcher award, the applicant will need to:

- Work on a research project related to IEA- and/ or DiVER studies during their stay/ respectively on a research project which highly corresponds to DIPF's activities; since AERA's scope of interest in research and science policy issues is quite broad, please send a brief email to executive.director@aera.net to determine if the topic is relevant to current AERA activities;
- Obtain the necessary visa and arrange your own travel to Germany or the U.S.;
- Present proof of valid medical insurance coverage for the stay in Germany or the U.S.;
- Be able to communicate fluently in English and/ or German, in English in the U.S.

To be eligible, applicants must meet all four conditions. If applicants cannot meet one or more of these conditions, please consider postponing the application until all conditions can be met.

Note that applicants from Global South countries are explicitly encouraged to apply.



How to apply

Please provide the following documents:

- Letter of request, including the preferred dates and preferred institution for your visit, the general objectives of your visit, and the specific activities you would like to focus on;
- Your CV with a record of publications (if applicable);
- For IEA/ DIVER or DIPF applicants, a proposal or research protocol referring to the focus of your visit. This proposal must include the following items:
 - Summary;
 - Objectives;
 - Literature review;
 - Data;
 - Methods;
 - Expected results.
- For AERA applicants, set forth a research or science policy issue with international relevance and aligned with your scholarly interests or work, and address the following items:
 - Summary of the issues;
 - What you would like to examine;
 - Relevance of your interests to education research or research policy discussions or debates (connect to relevant literatures)
 - Administrative, research, or other indicators data that may be useful in your work;
 - What product or outcomes you expect to produce.
- The proposal must not exceed 2,000 words.

Please send all documents via email to wera@aera.net. Applicants are requested to insert 'WERA- Academic Researcher Programme' into the subject of their email when submitting the application.

Selection process

The deadline for your applications is **May 1st, 2020**. All applications are reviewed by an academic committee (representatives of WERA, IEA and DiVER Uni Hamburg, the DIPF, and AERA). Candidates will be notified of acceptance or rejection within eight weeks of the deadline.

Please be assured that the information you send us is used only for the internal review process and will not be passed on to any third party.