

The University of Chicago – Kenneth C. Griffin Department of Economics

This position is designed for an exceptional early-career researcher with a strong foundation in applied microeconomics, data-intensive empirical work, or computational social science, and a deep interest in advancing the frontier of research on innovation, firm dynamics, and long-run economic growth. The successful candidate will collaborate with Professor Ufuk Akcigit on a major new research initiative that integrates large-scale patent, Census, and administrative microdata with **APTO (Artificial Intelligence for Policy and Technological Observation)**—a next-generation data infrastructure designed to map and analyze the global techno-scientific frontier.

The postdoctoral scholar will have the opportunity to:

- Contribute to the construction of a comprehensive dataset linking global knowledge production (scientific articles, patents, and products) to the economic and institutional environments that shape them;
- Apply state-of-the-art machine-learning tools—including transformer-based large language models—to embed research artifacts and economic indicators into a unified high-dimensional analytical framework;
- Use APTO as both a *global observatory* for measuring patterns of technological leadership and diffusion and a *virtual laboratory* for simulating how policy changes affect innovation and productivity;
- Develop empirical tools, dashboards, and policy-relevant resources that translate research insights for decision-makers in the United States and abroad;

This appointment is full-time for one year, with the possibility of renewal for a second year. There are **no teaching or administrative duties**, enabling full focus on research productivity, publication preparation, and collaborative work with Professor Akcigit's research team. Candidates who have accepted tenure-track positions elsewhere but wish to strengthen their research pipeline before assuming their new role are also welcome to apply.

Qualifications

- Ph.D. in Economics or a closely related field (completed or expected by the start date);
- A strong record of—or clear potential for—publication in leading academic journals;
- Capacity for independent work and collaborative engagement.

Application Process

Applications must be submitted online at **economics@uchicago.edu**. A complete application includes:

- Current **curriculum vitae**;
- **Research statement** outlining current work and future directions;
- **Job market paper** and up to three additional working papers;
- **Three letters of recommendation** (on letterhead, dated, and signed), submitted directly by referees.

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.

Equal Employment Opportunity Statement

The University of Chicago is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, national or ethnic origin, shared ancestry, age, status as an individual with a disability, military or veteran status, genetic information, or other protected classes under the law. For additional information please see the University's [Notice of Nondiscrimination](#).

Job seekers in need of a reasonable accommodation to complete the application process should call 773-834-3988 or email equalopportunity@uchicago.edu with their request.