AFSEE Policy Officer Project Proposal Criteria and Guidelines

As a part of your job application to the Atlantic Fellows for Social and Economic Equity (AFSEE) Policy Officer (PO) in Racial Inequalities role at the International Inequalities Institute (III) at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), you will need to submit a project proposal. Below is information about the purpose of the proposal, the criteria used as a part of the recruitment process, and the guidelines for writing the proposal.

1 Purpose of the project proposal

The AFSEE PO in Racial Inequalities role aims to support a policy expert in conducting their own year-long project aimed at understanding and creating policy recommendations around some aspect of racial disparities or inequalities in the economy. As the PO will work on their own project, the project proposal will be a central part of the recruitment and selection process.

Therefore, the purpose of the project proposal is to showcase to the recruitment panel the possible project that candidates would undertake during their 12-month contract.

Proposals should be approximately 900 words in length.

2 Criteria for the project proposal

The recruitment panel will use the project proposal as a key factor in shortlisting the candidates for the PO role. The panel will assess the proposals based on the following criteria:

*2.1 Relevance*

* To what extent does the project address the questions of social and policy importance within the realm of racial inequality and justice?
* Does the project centre racial inequality and have a focus on how policy can address these issues by promoting racial justice?
* To what extent does the project consider issues of racial inequality and/or racial justice beyond of Europe and North America?

*2.2 Feasibility*

* Based on the timeline provided, can the project be feasibly completed within the 12-month contract period? This timeline would also include the submission of one peer-review journal article publications and organising two public events.
* Does the project proposal timeline take into consideration the challenges posed by the current pandemic to the extent that is possible?

*2.3 Theoretical Underpinning:*

* To what extent does the project draw on and contribute to current theoretical understandings of racial inequalities and addressing these inequalities through policy?
* Theoretical underpinnings could include critical race theory, intersectionality, postcolonialism, de/coloniality, racial capitalism or any other social science theories.

*2.4 Policy Focus*

* To what extent does the project focus on a specific policy area and seek to advance policy thinking in that area?
* Does the project provide a rigorous analysis of the current policies in that field and recommendations?
* Does the project include outputs aimed at disseminating policy recommendations?

*2.5 Engagement with AFSEE*

* To what extent does the project demonstrate an engagement with and contribution to the Atlantic Fellows for Social and Economic Equity programme?

2 Structure of the project proposal

Below is a *strongly* suggested structure for your project proposals:

* 1. *Introduction (150 words)*

Provide an overall introduction to the project, the general policy area to which your project contributes, and any work you’ve already done in relation to that area of policy.

* 1. *Context and Relevance (300 words)*

In this section, include a brief overview of the context of your proposed project and the relevance of the project to:
1) racial disparities or inequalities in the economy
2) possibilities for addressing racial justice, and
3) the AFSEE programme.
Be sure to frame your policy focus within a particular theoretical position.

* 1. *Policy Focus (150 words)*

Describe the specific policy challenges and answers that your project aims to address. Detail the importance of these policies to understanding and addressing racial inequalities.

* 1. *Proposed Evidence Gathering* (300 words)

Include an overview of the specific method for analysing current policies (and the challenges these policies face) as well as evidence gathering for the feasibility and effectiveness of possible alternative policies. This may include desk research, working with secondary data sets, and/or interviews with key stakeholders.

* 1. *Proposed Outputs and Outcomes*

List the proposed outputs and outcomes of the project. This should include possible publications, public events, conferences, public engagement, or any other such outcome. Please note, as a part of the role, there is an expectation that at least one scholarly, peer-reviewed article will be produced. Do make sure it is feasible within the 12-month contract.

* 1. *Timeline*

Include a detailed, 12-month timeline for the project.