



# 2021 Postsecondary Career and Technical Education Research Fellow

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Belk Center  
for Community College  
Leadership and Research

Bio. Eunjung Jee is a Research Associate at the Institute for Economic and Racial Equity (IERE) at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University. Her research agenda is driven by the desire to understand the role of family status, which is closely correlated with gender and race, in shaping the interplay between human capital formation and labor market activities. Differences in labor market outcomes of postsecondary students by family and motherhood status led her to focus on mothers with young children and to seek the equitable ways in which career and technical education serve as a means for mothers to advance in their careers. At IERE, Eunjung works on projects as the quantitative lead analyzing postsecondary students' career pathways and wealth formation from the life course perspective with a focus on race-based differences associated with marital and motherhood status that hinders career progression of Black female students. She draws on various statistical methods including group-based trajectory model (GBTM) and longitudinal latent class analysis (LLCA).

Project. Many women face challenges advancing their careers following child birth, as pregnancy and childrearing can interrupt the human capital accumulation process. Compared to the attention given to human capital accumulation at the workplaces of mothers, less has been paid to mothers' post-childbirth education. The purpose of this study is to examine the role of postsecondary Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs in mothers' human capital accumulation using a longitudinal analysis. Specifically, the study focuses on career advancement and wages of mothers in postsecondary education to understand how CTE programs help them return to and move up the career ladder, leading to more secure wages.



Research Sponsor: Jessica Santos, PhD  
Director of Community-Engaged Research  
Institute for Economic and Racial Equity  
The Heller School for Social Policy and Management  
Brandeis University

## The Program

Fellows will be part of a community that participates in two national research training institutes, research methods webinars, works with CTE research mentors, and conducts postsecondary CTE research.

“We have designed this CTE Fellows program to provide scholars with the unique opportunity to be part of a community and a formal curriculum to develop their research skills while working toward improving the field of CTE.” — James Bartlett II, Ph.D.,  
Principal Investigator

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