



**CENTER  
FOR AUDIT  
QUALITY**



**American  
Accounting  
Association**  
Thought Leaders in  
Accounting

**Access to Audit Personnel  
Request for Proposals – Due Date: February 1, 2016**

The Center for Audit Quality and the Auditing Section of the American Accounting Association request proposals for the Access to Audit Personnel program.

The purpose of this program is to assist scholars in obtaining access to auditor participants for research. The fourth year of this program will continue to focus on proposals in which the principal investigator is a doctoral student or a professor seeking tenure, although these scholars may team with more senior academics on the research. A committee of senior academics and practitioners will evaluate proposals based on (1) ability to address important research questions that are relevant to practice, (2) ability to contribute to academic literature, (3) methodological soundness, and (4) level and extent of resources requested. All proposals must include the most recent version of the study's data collection protocol/instrument, which should be in an advanced stage of development. An instrument that is part of a successful proposal will be subject to review, which may result in refinements. **The expectation is that the CAQ Governing Board firms will administer the data collection protocols between June 1 and August 31, 2016.**

Please provide an abstract of no more than 200 words and a proposal of no more than five pages. The proposal should include the following:

- A description of the research question and its importance to practice.
- A description of how the research fits into the existing literature.
- A description of specific predictions, including theory-based explanations underlying the predictions. Research without specific predictions (e.g., interview, case study, survey) will also be considered and should include a description of how the research relates to theory.
- A description of the proposed methodology, including the research design and key variables, if applicable, and the proposed methods of analysis.
- A description of request for participants, including the number of participants, level of experience (e.g., audit senior, manager, and/or number of years of experience), and any other selection criteria. Proposals must specify if additional participants will be required for pilot testing.
- A timeline for data collection, analysis, and report writing.
- A list of references, which is not counted against the five-page limit.

In addition to the elements listed above, submissions must include a near final draft of the research instrument, along with the vitae of research team members. Your abstract, proposal, timeline, references, and data collection instrument should be submitted as a single PDF or Word document.

Please note that the research team will be required to obtain Institutional Review Board(s) approval of the data collection protocol from their school(s).

Proposals are due by midnight PST, **Monday, February 1, 2016**. Academics must complete [an online application form](#) and attach the proposal, data collection instrument, and other supporting materials as a single PDF or Word document. A [short video](#) on elements of a successful proposal can be viewed on the [CAQ website](#). We hope that this video will assist in the development of successful proposals.

Up to five proposals will be selected for this program in 2016. Those who submit proposals for access will be notified of the status of their request by the end of April 2016.

The AAA, the CAQ and its member firms do not fund travel or any other expenses incurred by the researchers who are ultimately selected to participate in this program. Travel and other expenses are the responsibility of the researchers.

Questions should be submitted to [tpayne@thecaq.org](mailto:tpayne@thecaq.org).