Baltimore Area Survey
Graduate Student Research Opportunity

Due December 5, 2025 at 11:59pm

The Baltimore Area Survey (BAS) is a new effort by the 21st Century Cities Initiative at Johns Hopkins University to foster a greater understanding of topics important to Baltimore-area communities. The data, and their analysis by JHU scholars, provide valuable information to Baltimore-area community organizations, governments, businesses, and faith institutions. In addition, they provide an opportunity for Baltimore to be the home to world-class research gathered through survey research.

The 21st Century Cities Initiative **seeks proposals from JHU students enrolled in masters or doctoral degree programs to be to include one or two questions on the 2026 Baltimore Area Survey.** Participation should help students accomplish their degree requirements and support their future careers. If questions are included on the survey, we expect students to produce a brief report that explain initial findings to the wider Baltimore community. An honorarium of $1,000 will be provided.

Application requirements are listed on the following page and will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. The benefit that using the 2026 BAS will provide to the student's academic career at JHU
2. The value of the data proposed by the student to the broader Baltimore community
3. The academic rigor of the proposed analyses and the likelihood that analyses based on the data will lead to academic publications
4. The strength of the mentorship support upon which the student can rely to use the data to advance their career goals

Please submit all application materials to 21cc@jhu.edu with the subject heading "2026 BAS Graduate Collaborator" by **11:59PM on December 5, 2025**. Please direct any questions to that email address as well.

Application Requirements

Abstract of no more than 200 words that describes the research question being studied using the 2026 Baltimore Area Survey

Research proposal of no more than two pages single-spaced with 11 point font and 1-inch margins that contains the following sections:

- *Background and Significance*: Briefly describe your overall research area or topic. Include in this summary enough background of the research topic and the significance of the research question that motivates the specific aim (for this, please think of what you would write in the first two or three paragraphs of a paper using the data).
- *Specific Aim*: State the specific aim that you hope to answer by including survey questions on the BAS 2026. Ideally this should be stated in the form of a hypothesis to be examined using the BAS 2026. The aim should clearly state the **concept** you wish to measure with questions from the BAS 2026. (Note: The concept should be the idea that you are hoping to measure, **not** the survey question itself—see below for where you will propose the survey question).
- *Measurement:* Explain how you plan to measure the concept you describe in your specific aim. Explain what information you would need to be collected from survey respondents to measure the concept that you propose and how you plan to gather that data from survey questions. Please note that most applications will be limited to one or two questions. If questions have been used previously, please provide citations to those studies (questions that can be used to compare the Baltimore area to other regions in past or ongoing work are especially welcome).
- *Analysis:* Describe the analytic plan for the items that you propose in the to address your specific aim. For all analyses, please explain the methods that you intend to use and how the measures will be incorporated.

Professional statement of no more than 300 words describes how having data from the BAS 2026 will support your research and academic career. Please address the question: what will be made possible by having data from the BAS 2026 that would not be possible without these data?

References (contact information) for a faculty mentor that can speak to your ability to use the data and to the value of the BAS 2026 data for your research endeavors.