

# BLS Visiting Researcher Program

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Division of Consumer Expenditure Surveys  
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# Restricted CE Data

- Restricted CE data are collected, but not publically available
  - ▶ Geographic information
    - Census tracks
    - FIPS state and county codes
    - Zip codes
  - ▶ Topcoded income and expenditure variables

# BLS Visiting Researcher Program: Overview

- Increased interest in using restricted data over the past
- Program allows data users to access restricted data
  - ▶ Federal agency
  - ▶ Non-profit
  - ▶ University or College
- Requires application process

# Application Process

1. Contact CE to ensure data are available
2. Explore Visiting Researcher Program Website:  
<http://www.bls.gov/rda/home.htm>
3. Submit Application
  - Research Proposal
  - Federal/Non-Federal Visiting Researcher Questionnaire
  - CV/Resume
4. Review by BLS Microdata Access Research Board (MARB)
5. Obtain Title 13 clearance



# Time Frame

- Typically takes 3 to 6 months, but can take longer



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