

BRIAN A. JACOB

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RESEARCH AND TEACHING FIELDS

Labor Economics, Economics of Education, Public Economics

APPOINTMENTS

Walter H. Annenberg Professor of Education Policy, Professor of Economics and Professor of Education, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan, 2007–Present

Associate Dean for Research and Policy Engagement, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan, 2023–Present

Co-Director, Youth Policy Lab, University of Michigan, 2016–Present

Co-Director, Education Policy Initiative, University of Michigan, 2012–2021

Director, Center for Local, State and Urban Policy, University of Michigan, 2007–2012

Visiting Associate Professor, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan, 2006–07

Assistant Professor, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, 2001–2007

EDITORIAL POSITIONS

Editor, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 2019–2024

Associate Editor, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 2008–2018

Board of Editors, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 2007–2019

Editorial Board, *Education Finance and Policy*, 2009–2019

OTHER POSITIONS AND AFFILIATIONS

J-PAL, Member, Invited Researcher Selection Committee, 2026–

Member, Advisory Committee, Opt-In for Families, Doris Duke Foundation, 2024–

Member, Independent Advisory Panel, Perkins VI CTE Legislation, U.S. Department of Education, 2020–2024

Board of Directors, Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP), 2020–2023

MDRC, CTE Advisory Committee, 2020–Present

J-PAL, Faculty Affiliate, 2018–Present

Non-Resident Fellow, Economic Studies, Brookings Institution, 2015–2018

Fellow, CESifo Research Network, 2014–Present

Research Associate, National Bureau of Economic Research, 2007–Present

Faculty Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research, 2001–2007

Executive Committee Member, National Poverty Center, 2008–2012

EDUCATION

University of Chicago, Ph.D. in Public Policy, 2001

Harvard University, A.B. *magna cum laude* in Social Studies, 1992

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

UM Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award, 2021
UM Distinguished Graduate Mentor Award, 2019
UM Faculty Recognition Award, 2011
David N. Kershaw Award, 2008
Young Faculty Leaders in Education Forum, 2002
HUD Urban Scholars Postdoctoral Fellow, 2002
APPAM Dissertation Award (honorable mention), 2002
Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, 2000
Irving B. Harris Fellowship, University of Chicago, 1996–1997
National Urban Fellowship, 1992–1993
John Harvard and Harvard College Scholarships, 1989–1991

PUBLICATIONS

Working Papers

1. Allcott, Hunt, Baron, E. Jason, Dee, Thomas, Duckworth, Angela L., Gentzkow, Matthew and Brian Jacob (2026). ["The Effects of School Phone Bans: National Evidence from Lockable Pouches."](#) NBER Working Paper 35132.
Coverage: [New York Times](#) · [Washington Post](#) · [Scientific American](#) · [NPR](#) · [Education Week](#) · [The 74](#) · [CNN](#)
2. Jacob, Brian A. and Stanojevich, Cristina (2024). ["Did COVID-19 Shift the Grammar of Schooling?"](#) EdWorkingPaper 24-1021. *R&R at the Journal of Educational Change*.
3. Jacob, Brian and Ricks, Michael (2023). ["Who Chooses Career Technical Education, and Why?"](#) NBER Working Paper 31756. *R&R at the Journal of Human Resources*.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

1. Anglin, Kylie, Christian, Alvin, Jacob, Brian and Singleton, John (Forthcoming). ["Education Governance and Race: An Analysis of School Board Discourse Using Large Language Models."](#) *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*.
2. Berne, J., Garcia, K.C., Jacob, B., Musaddiq, T., Shapiro, A. and Weiland, C. (2026). ["Impacts of Michigan Transitional Kindergarten through Third Grade."](#) *Child Development*.
3. Berne, J., Jacob, B., Weiland, C. and Strunk, K. (2026). ["Assessing the Impact of Grade Retention: A Cautionary Tale of Exclusion Restriction Violations."](#) *Journal of Public Economics*. 253.
Coverage: [Annenberg Institute](#) · [Education Week](#) · [Cato Institute](#) · [New York Times](#) · [The 74](#)
4. Goldring, Thomas, Jacob, Brian, Kreisman, Daniel and Ricks, Michael (2026). ["Loopholes and the Incidence of Public Services: Evidence from Funding Career & Technical Education."](#) *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*. 45(1): 1–13.
5. Berne, J., Garcia, K.C., Jacob, B., Musaddiq, T., Owusu, S., Shapiro, A. and Weiland, C. (2025). ["Transitional Kindergarten: The New Kid on the Early Learning Block."](#) *Educational Researcher*. 54(4): 177–187.
6. Brockman, S.L., Camo-Biogradlija, J., Ratledge, A., O'Donoghue, R., Baum, M.Y. and Jacob, B. (2025). ["Forging a Path to College Persistence: An Experimental Evaluation of the Detroit Promise Path Program."](#) *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*. 47(2): 549–576.
7. Jacob, Brian (2024). ["School Board Elections Before, During and After the COVID-19 Pandemic."](#) *AERA Open*. 10.
8. Christian, Alvin, Jacob, Brian and Singleton, John (2024). ["Assessing School District Decision-Making: Evidence from the COVID-19 Pandemic."](#) *Education Finance and Policy*. 20(2): 344–377.

9. Berne, J., Jacob, B., Shapiro, A. and Weiland, C. (2024). ["The Effect of Early Childhood Programs on Third-Grade Outcomes: Evidence from Transitional Kindergarten in Michigan."](#) *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings*. 114: 480–485.
10. Trejo, Samuel, Yeomans-Maldonado, Gloria and Jacob, Brian (2024). ["The Psychosocial Effects of the Flint Water Crisis on School-Age Children."](#) *Science Advances*. 10(11).
11. Weiland, C. et al. (2024). ["Lottery-Based Evaluations of Early Education Programs: Opportunities and Challenges."](#) *AERA Open*. 10.
12. Jacob, Brian, Jones, Damon and Keys, Benjamin (2024). ["The Value of Student Debt Relief and the Role of Administrative Barriers: Evidence from the Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program."](#) *Journal of Labor Economics*. 42(S1).
13. Baum, Micah and Jacob, Brian (2024). ["Racial Differences in Parent Response to COVID Schooling Policies."](#) *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. 121(3).
14. Baron, Jason, Jacob, Brian and Ryan, Joseph (2023). ["Pretrial Juvenile Detention."](#) *Journal of Public Economics*. 217 (104798).
15. Pilkauskas, N., Jacob, B., Rhodes, E., Richard, K. and Shaefer, L. (2023). ["The COVID Cash Transfer Study: The Impacts of an Unconditional Cash Transfer on the Wellbeing of Low-Income Families."](#) *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*. 42(3): 771–795.
Coverage: Vox · One of 10 most-cited papers in JPAM for 2023
16. Hart, C.M.D., Linden, R., Jacob, B.A. and Loeb, S. (2023). ["Online Course-Taking and Expansion of Curricular Options in High Schools."](#) *Peabody Journal of Education*.
17. Jacob, B., Pilkauskas, N., Rhodes, E., Richard, K. and Shaefer, L. (2022). ["The COVID Cash Transfer Study II."](#) *National Tax Journal*. 75(3).
Coverage: Vox · One of 10 most-cited papers in JPAM for 2023
18. Denning, J.T., Jacob, B.A., Lefgren, L. and von Lehn, C. (2022). ["The Return to Hours Worked Within and Across Occupations: Implications for Measuring the Gender Wage Gap."](#) *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*. 75(5).
19. Blad, A., Doyle, J., Gross, M. and Jacob, B. (2022). ["Economics of Foster Care."](#) *Journal of Economic Perspectives*. 36(2): 223–46.
20. Hemelt, Steven and Jacob, Brian (2020). ["How Does an Accountability Program that Targets Achievement Gaps Affect Student Performance?"](#) *Education Finance and Policy*. 15(1): 45–74.
21. Dee, T.S., Dobbie, W., Jacob, B. and Rockoff, J. (2019). ["The Causes and Consequences of Test Score Manipulation: Evidence from the New York State Regents Exam."](#) *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*. 11(3): 382–423.
22. Hart, C., Berger, D., Jacob, B., Loeb, S. and Hill, M. (2019). ["Online Learning, Offline Outcomes: Online Course Taking and High School Performance."](#) *AERA Open*. 5(1).
23. Kim, S., Jacob, B., Dynarski, S., Frank, K. and Schneider, B. (2019). ["The Impact of the Michigan Merit Curriculum on High School Course-Taking."](#) *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*. 41(2).
24. Jacob, B., Rockoff, J., Taylor, E., Lindy, B. and Rosen, R. (2018). ["Teacher Applicant Hiring and Teacher Performance: Evidence from DC Public Schools."](#) *Journal of Public Economics*. 166: 81–97.
25. Baker, R., Bettinger, E., Jacob, B. and Marinescu, I. (2018). ["The Effect of Labor Market Information on Community College Students' Major Choice."](#) *Economics of Education Review*. 65: 18–30.
26. Dynarski, S., Jacob, B. and Kreisman, D. (2018). ["How Important Are Fixed Effects and Time Trends in Estimating Returns to Schooling?"](#) *Journal of Applied Econometrics*. 33(7).
27. Ryan, J.P., Jacob, B.A., Gross, M., Perron, B.E., Moore, A. and Ferguson, S. (2018). ["Early Exposure to Child Maltreatment and Educational Outcomes."](#) *Child Maltreatment*.

28. Jacob, B.A., McCall, B. and Stange, K. (2018). "[College as Country Club: Do Colleges Cater to Students' Preferences for Consumption?](#)" *Journal of Labor Economics*. 36(2): 309–348.
29. Jacob, B., Dynarski, S., Frank, K. and Schneider, B. (2017). "[Are Expectations Alone Enough? Estimating the Effect of a Mandatory College-Prep Curriculum in Michigan.](#)" *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*. 39(2).
30. Jacob, Brian (2017). "[When Evidence is Not Enough: Findings from a Randomized Evaluation of Evidence-Based Literacy Instruction.](#)" *Labour Economics*. 45: 5–16.
31. Jacob, B. and Rothstein, J. (2016). "[The Measurement of Student Ability in Modern Assessment Systems.](#)" *Journal of Economic Perspectives*. 30(3): 85–108.
32. Jacob, B.A., Kapustin, M. and Ludwig, J. (2015). "[The Impact of Housing Assistance on Child Outcomes: Evidence from a Randomized Housing Lottery.](#)" *Quarterly Journal of Economics*. 130(1): 465–506.
33. Ronfeldt, M., Schwartz, N. and Jacob, B. (2014). "[Does Pre-Service Preparation Matter? Examining an Old Question in New Ways.](#)" *Teachers College Record*. 116(10): 1–46.
34. Engel, M., Jacob, B.A. and Curran, C. (2014). "[New Evidence on Teacher Labor Supply.](#)" *American Educational Research Journal*. 51(1): 36–72.
35. Jacob, Brian A. (2013). "[The Effect of Employment Protection on Worker Effort: Evidence from Public Schooling.](#)" *Journal of Labor Economics*. 31(4): 727–761.
36. Jacob, B.A., Ludwig, J. and Miller, D. (2013). "[The Effects of Housing and Neighborhood Conditions on Child Mortality.](#)" *Journal of Health Economics*. 32(1): 195–206.
37. Dee, T.S., Jacob, B.A. and Schwartz, N.L. (2013). "[The Effects of No Child Left Behind on Education Finance and Practice.](#)" *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*. 35(2): 252–279.
38. Jacob, R.T. and Jacob, B.A. (2012). "[Pre-notification, Incentives and Survey Modality: An Experimental Test of Methods to Increase Survey Response Rates of School Principals.](#)" *Journal of Research on Educational Effectiveness*. 5(4): 401–420.
39. Dee, T.S. and Jacob, B.A. (2012). "[Rational Ignorance in Education: A Field Experiment in Student Plagiarism.](#)" *Journal of Human Resources*. 47(2): 397–434.
40. Jacob, B.A. and Ludwig, J. (2012). "[The Effects of Housing Assistance on Labor Supply: Evidence from a Voucher Lottery.](#)" *American Economic Review*. 102(1): 272–304.
41. Duggan, M., Hjalmarsson, R. and Jacob, B. (2011). "[The Short-Term and Localized Effect of Gun Shows: Evidence from California and Texas.](#)" *Review of Economics and Statistics*. 93(3): 786–799.
42. Dee, T.S. and Jacob, B.A. (2011). "[The Impact of No Child Left Behind on Student Achievement.](#)" *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*. 30(3): 418–446.
43. Jacob, Brian A. (2011). "[Do Principals Fire the Worst Teachers?](#)" *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*. 33(4): 403–434.
44. Jacob, B. and Lefgren, L. (2011). "[The Impact of NIH Postdoctoral Training Grants on Scientific Productivity.](#)" *Research Policy*. 40(6): 864–874.
45. Jacob, B. and Lefgren, L. (2011). "[The Impact of Research Grant Funding on Scientific Productivity.](#)" *Journal of Public Economics*. 95(9–10): 1168–1177.
46. Jacob, B. and Walsh, E. (2011). "[What's in a Rating?](#)" *Economics of Education Review*. 30(3): 434–448.
47. Rockoff, J., Jacob, B., Kane, T. and Staiger, D. (2011). "[Can You Recognize an Effective Teacher When You Recruit One?](#)" *Education Finance and Policy*. 6(1): 43–74.
48. Dee, T.S. and Jacob, B.A. (2010). "[The Impact of No Child Left Behind on Students, Teachers and Schools.](#)" *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*. Fall 2010: 149–207.
49. Jacob, B., Lefgren, L. and Sims, D. (2010). "[The Persistence of Teacher-Induced Learning Gains.](#)" *Journal of Human Resources*. 45(4): 915–943.

50. Jacob, B. and Lefgren, L. (2009). ["The Effect of Grade Retention on High School Completion."](#) *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*. 1(3): 33–58.
51. Guryan, J., Jacob, B., Klopfer, E. and Groff, J. (2008). ["Using Technology to Explore Social Networks and Mechanisms Underlying Peer Effects in Classrooms."](#) *Developmental Psychology*. 44(2): 355–364.
52. Jacob, B. and Lefgren, L. (2008). ["Principals as Agents: Subjective Performance Assessment in Education."](#) *Journal of Labor Economics*. 26(1): 101–136.
53. Jacob, B. and Lefgren, L. (2007). ["What Do Parents Value in Education? An Empirical Investigation of Parents' Revealed Preferences for Teachers."](#) *Quarterly Journal of Economics*. 122(4): 1603–1637.
54. Jacob, B., Lefgren, L. and Moretti, E. (2007). ["The Dynamics of Criminal Behavior: Evidence from Weather Shocks."](#) *Journal of Human Resources*. 42(3): 489–527.
55. Cullen, J., Jacob, B. and Levitt, S. (2006). ["The Effect of School Choice on Student Outcomes: Evidence from Randomized Lotteries."](#) *Econometrica*. 74(5): 1191–1230.
56. Jacob, B. (2005). ["Accountability, Incentives and Behavior: Evidence from School Reform in Chicago."](#) *Journal of Public Economics*. 89(5–6): 761–796.
57. Cullen, J., Jacob, B. and Levitt, S. (2005). ["The Impact of School Choice on Student Outcomes: An Analysis of the Chicago Public Schools."](#) *Journal of Public Economics*. 89(5–6): 729–760.
58. Jacob, B. (2004). ["Public Housing, Housing Vouchers and Student Achievement: Evidence from Public Housing Demolitions in Chicago."](#) *American Economic Review*. 94(1): 233–258.
59. Jacob, B. and Lefgren, L. (2004). ["Remedial Education and Student Achievement: A Regression-Discontinuity Analysis."](#) *Review of Economics and Statistics*. LXXXVI(1): 226–244.
60. Jacob, B. and Lefgren, L. (2004). ["The Impact of Teacher Training on Student Achievement: Quasi-Experimental Evidence from School Reform Efforts in Chicago."](#) *Journal of Human Resources*. 39(1): 50–79.
61. Jacob, B. and Lefgren, L. (2003). ["Are Idle Hands the Devil's Workshop? Incapacitation, Concentration and Juvenile Crime."](#) *American Economic Review*. 93(5): 1560–1577.
62. Jacob, B. and Levitt, S. (2003). ["Rotten Apples: An Investigation of the Prevalence and Predictors of Teacher Cheating."](#) *Quarterly Journal of Economics*. 118(3): 843–877.
63. Roderick, M., Jacob, B. and Bryk, A. (2002). ["The Impact of High-Stakes Testing in Chicago on Student Achievement in the Promotional Gate Grades."](#) *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*. 24(4): 333–357.
64. Jacob, B. (2002). ["Where the Boys Aren't: Non-Cognitive Skills, Returns to School and the Gender Gap in Higher Education."](#) *Economics of Education Review*. 21: 589–598.
65. Jacob, B. (2001). ["Getting Tough? The Impact of Mandatory High School Graduation Exams on Student Achievement and Dropout Rates."](#) *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*. 23(2): 99–122.
66. Jacob, B. (1995). ["Defining 'Culture' in Multicultural Education: Community, Competition and Cultural Hierarchy at Heritage High."](#) *American Journal of Education*. 103: 339–376.

Book Chapters and Other Publications

1. Jacob, Brian (2021). "A Comment on Hoxby's 'Skill Desert' Chapter." *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*.
2. Jacob, Brian (2017). "The Changing Federal Role in School Accountability." *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*. 36(2): 469–477.
3. Jacob, Brian (2017). "The Potential and Limits of Federal Policy: A Response to Ladd." *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*. 36(2): 480–483.
4. Jacob, B., De Vlieger, P. and Stange, K. (2017). "Measuring Instructor Effectiveness in Higher Education." In *Productivity in Higher Education*, eds. Hoxby and Stange.
5. Jacob, B., Berger, D., Hart, C. and Loeb, S. (2016). "Can Technology Help Promote Equality of Educational Opportunities?" *Russell Sage Foundation Journal*. 2(5): 242–271.

6. Jacob, B.A. and Rockoff, J. (2011). "Organizing Schools to Improve Student Achievement: Start Times, Grade Configurations and Teacher Assignments." The Hamilton Project, Brookings Institution.
7. Jacob, B.A. and Wilder, T. (2011). "Educational Expectations and Attainment." In *Whither Opportunity?*, eds. Duncan and Murnane. Russell Sage Press.
8. Heller, S., Jacob, B.A. and Ludwig, J. (2011). "Family Income, Neighborhood Poverty and Crime." In *Making Crime Control Pay*, eds. Cook, Ludwig and McCrary. NBER.
9. Jacob, B.A. and Ludwig, J. (2011). "Educational Interventions: Their Effects on the Achievement of Poor Children." In *Neighborhood and Life Chances*, eds. Newburger, Birch and Wachter. University of Pennsylvania Press.
10. Jacob, B.A. and Ludwig, J. (2009). "Improving Educational Outcomes for Poor Children." In *Changing Poverty*, eds. Cancian and Danziger. Russell Sage Publications.
11. Cullen, J. and Jacob, B. (2008). "Is Gaining Access to a Selective Elementary School Gaining Ground?" In *An Economics Perspective on the Problems of Disadvantaged Youth*, ed. Gruber. University of Chicago Press.
12. Jacob, B. (2007). "The Challenges of Staffing Urban Schools with Effective Teachers." *The Future of Children*. 17(1): 129–154.
13. Dee, T.S. and Jacob, B.A. (2007). "Do High School Exit Exams Influence Educational Attainment or Labor Market Performance?" In *Standards-Based Reform and the Poverty Gap*, ed. Gamoran. Brookings University Press.
14. Dee, T.S., Jacob, B.A. and Ha, W. (2006). "The Effects of School Size on Parental Involvement and Social Capital." In *Brookings Papers on Education Policy 2006*, eds. Loveless and Hess. Brookings Institution Press.
15. Jacob, B. and Ludwig, J. (2005). "Can the Federal Government Improve Education Research?" In *Brookings Papers on Education Policy 2005*, ed. Ravitch. Brookings Institution Press.
16. Roderick, M., Jacob, B. and Bryk, A. (2004). "Summer in the City: Achievement Gains in Chicago's Summer Bridge Program." In *Summer Learning*, eds. Borman and Boulay. Erlbaum.
17. Jacob, B. and Levitt, S. (2003). "Catching Cheating Teachers." In *Brookings-Wharton Papers on Urban Affairs 2003*, eds. Gale and Pack. Brookings Institution Press.
18. Jacob, B. (2003). "Getting Inside Accountability: Lessons from Chicago." In *Brookings-Wharton Papers on Urban Affairs 2003*, eds. Gale and Pack. Brookings Institution Press.
19. Jacob, B. (2003). "A Closer Look at Achievement Gains under High-Stakes Testing in Chicago." In *No Child Left Behind?*, eds. Peterson and West. Brookings Institution.
20. Roderick, M., Jacob, B. and Bryk, A. (2001). "Evaluating Chicago's Efforts to End Social Promotion." In *Governance and Performance: New Perspectives*, eds. Lynn and Heinrich. Georgetown University Press.

Education Next

1. Jacob, Brian A. (2011). "Principled Principals." *Education Next*. Fall: 11(4).
2. Dee, Thomas and Jacob, Brian A. (2010). "Evaluating NCLB." *Education Next*. Summer: 10(3).
3. Jacob, B. and Lefgren, L. (2007). "In Low-Income Schools, Parents Want Teachers who Teach." *Education Next*. Summer.
4. Jacob, B. and Lefgren, L. (2006). "When Principals Rate Teachers." *Education Next*. Spring.
5. Jacob, B. and Levitt, S. (2004). "To Catch a Cheat." *Education Next*. Winter.
6. Jacob, B. (2003). "High Stakes in Chicago: Are Chicago's Rising Test Scores Genuine?" *Education Next*. Winter.

Resting Papers

1. Jacob, Brian A. (2024). ["The Lasting Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on K-12 Schooling: Evidence from a Nationally Representative Teacher Survey."](#) EdWorkingPaper 24-1020.

2. Dynarski, S., Hubbard, D., Jacob, B. and Robles, S. (2018). "[Estimating the Effects of a Large For-Profit Charter School Operator.](#)" NBER Working Paper 24428.
3. Bahr, Peter et al. (2015). "[Labor Market Returns to Community College Awards: Evidence from Michigan.](#)" Working paper.
4. Jacob, B. and Springer, M.G. (2007). "[Teacher Attitudes on Pay for Performance: A Pilot Study.](#)" National Center on Performance Incentives Working Paper 2007-06. Vanderbilt University.
5. Jacob, B. (2006). "[Test-Based Accountability and Student Achievement: An Investigation of Differential Performance on NAEP and State Assessments.](#)" NBER Working Paper 12817.

RESEARCH FUNDING

Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, Inc., 2026–2028, \$304,000. Principal Investigator. "Technical Education, Technical Skills and Mobility through Careers: Evidence from Skill Certificates and Career Focus."

Spencer Foundation, 2026–2028, \$499,000. Principal Investigator. "Implementation and Impact of School Cell Phone Policy on Student and Community Outcomes in Michigan."

Laura and John Arnold Foundation, 2026–2029, \$814,000. Principal Investigator. "Impact of Restricting Student Use of Cell Phones in School: A National Analysis of Yondr Lockable Pouches."

Laura and John Arnold Foundation, 2026–2027, \$310,000. Co-Principal Investigator. "An Experimental Evaluation of Interventions to Improve Student Attendance and Achievement at National Heritage Academy Charter Schools."

Laura and John Arnold Foundation, 2025–2027, \$394,000. Co-Principal Investigator. "JET Propulsion? A Quasi-Experimental Evaluation of Texas's Jobs & Education for Texans (JET) Grant Program."

Smith Richardson Foundation, 2025–2027, \$331,000. Principal Investigator. "The Impact of Restricting Student Use of Cell Phones in School: A National Analysis of Yondr Lockable Pouches."

Centers for Disease Control, 2025–2028, \$1,190,000. Principal Investigator. "Implementation and Impact of School Cellphone Policy on School and Community Violence in Michigan." R01CE003837.

Michigan Department of Education, 2024–2025, \$500,000. Principal Investigator. "An Examination of Education Governance in Michigan."

Laura and John Arnold Foundation, 2023–2028, \$766,000. Principal Investigator. "An Evaluation of SafeCare in Michigan."

J-PAL North America, 2022–2023, \$50,000. Principal Investigator. "MI Pathway Pilot."

Kresge Foundation, 2021–2022, \$30,000. "Future for Frontliners Pilot Study: Developing a web-based tool to provide career and educational pathway information to adult learners."

J-PAL North America, 2020–2021, \$50,000. Principal Investigator. "A Pilot Project on How to Best Serve Children at Risk of Entering Foster Care."

U.S. Department of Education, 2020–2025, \$4,600,000. Co-Investigator. University of Michigan Pre-Doctoral Training Grant. (R305B200011).

U.S. Department of Education, 2020–2022, \$470,000. Principal Investigator. "Exploring the Role of CTE in Putting Michigan High School Students on a Path to Economic Success." (R305A200046).

Smith Richardson Foundation, 2019–2021, \$300,000. Principal Investigator. "Exploring the Role of Career and Technical Education in Putting Michigan High School Students on a Path to Economic Success."

U.S. Department of Education, 2019–2024, \$5,000,000. Co-Principal Investigator. "Evaluating Michigan's Early Literacy Law." (R305H190004).

Michigan College Access Network, 2018–2021, \$101,062. Principal Investigator. "AdviseMI Evaluation."

Ralph C. Wilson Foundation, 2018–2019, \$100,000. Principal Investigator. "Education and Training Labor Market Outcomes Data Pilot Project."

The Skillman Foundation, 2018–2020, \$300,000. Principal Investigator. "Youth Workforce Development Efforts and Outcomes in Detroit."

Arnold Foundation, 2020, \$425,000. "Extension funding for Youth Policy Lab and Michigan Education Data Center."

U.S. Department of Education, 2017–2022, \$712,000. Principal Investigator. University of Michigan Postdoctoral Training Program in Experimental and Quasi-Experimental Methods for Education Research.

J-PAL North America, 2017–2019, \$250,000. Principal Investigator. "An Evaluation of Community Ventures in Michigan."

Arnold Foundation, 2016–2019, \$2,600,000. Principal Investigator. "Expanding Evidence-Driven Policy in Michigan: Michigan Policy Innovation Lab."

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, 2015–2016, \$486,501. Principal Investigator. "The Relationship Between Behavior Nudges and Intrinsic Motivation."

U.S. Department of Education, 2015–2018, \$1,596,937. Principal Investigator. "Virtual courses: The introduction and expansion of virtual schooling in Florida."

U.S. Department of Education, 2015–2020, \$4,000,000. Co-Investigator. Predoctoral Training Program in Causal Inference in Education Policy Research.

U.S. Department of Education, 2012–2015, \$1,518,000. Co-Principal Investigator. "Why are Some Charter Schools More Effective than Others?"

U.S. Department of Education, 2011–2016, \$1,518,000. Co-Principal Investigator. National Research and Development Center on Postsecondary Education and Employment.

U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, 2011–2015, \$687,000. Co-Principal Investigator. University of Michigan Post-doctoral Training Program.

U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, 2010–2015, \$6,000,000. Principal Investigator. "The Impact of the Michigan Merit Curriculum and Michigan Promise Scholarship on Student Outcomes."

Smith Richardson Foundation, 2011–2013, \$250,000. Co-Principal Investigator. "Measuring and Understanding the Effectiveness of Michigan Charter Schools."

Smith Richardson Foundation, 2011–2012, \$80,500. Principal Investigator. "Identifying Effective Teachers During the Hiring Process."

WT Grant Foundation, 2014–2016, \$298,253. Co-Investigator. "School Reforms and Educational Inequality: Regression Discontinuity Evidence from NCLB Waivers."

Spencer Foundation, 2014–2016, \$389,439. Co-Investigator. "School Reforms and Educational Inequality: Regression Discontinuity Evidence from NCLB Waivers."

Walton Family Foundation, 2013–2015, \$200,000. Principal Investigator. "An Investigation of the Potential for Online Learning to Expand Educational Choice."

Walton Family Foundation, 2013–2014, \$100,000. Co-Principal Investigator. "Do School Turnaround Efforts Improve Chronically Underperforming Schools?"

UM Global Challenges Grant, 2013–2014, \$262,522. Principal Investigator. "Community College to Career."

W.T. Grant Foundation, 2006–07, \$25,000. Principal Investigator. "An Examination of Teacher Hiring Practices in the Chicago Public Schools."

Carnegie Foundation / Spencer Foundation, 2006–07, \$50,000 each. Co-Principal Investigator. "Predicting Teacher Effectiveness."

W.T. Grant Foundation, 2005–07, \$370,000. Co-Principal Investigator. "Can Non-Experimental Estimators Replicate the Results from Social Experiments."

U.S. Department of Education, NAEP Secondary Analysis Grant, 2003–04, \$77,000. Principal Investigator.

Smith Richardson Foundation, 2003–04, \$362,000. Co-Principal Investigator. "The Impact of Neighborhoods on Low-Income Families."

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Urban Scholars Postdoctoral Fellow, 2002–04, \$54,000.

Harvard University, Milton Fund Grant, 2002–03, \$34,000. Principal Investigator.

CURRENT AND FORMER STUDENTS

Current Students

Chelsie Richie (Expected 2029, School of Education, University of Michigan)

Jae Eun Choi (Expected 2027, School of Education, University of Michigan)

Noa Beneviste (Expected 2029, Economics, University of Michigan)

Kenny Hofmeister (Expected 2028, Economics, University of Michigan)

Shekinah Lightner (Expected 2027, Political Science and Public Policy, University of Michigan)

Micah Baum (Expected 2027, Economics and Public Policy, University of Michigan)

Former Students and Postdoctoral Fellows

Alvin Christian (2026 PhD, Economics and Public Policy), Assistant Professor, SUNY Albany

Jordy Berne (2025 PhD, Economics), Research Associate, RAND

Nathan Sotherland (2025 PhD, Economics), Research Associate, Cornerstone

Brittany Vasquez (2025 PhD, Sociology and Public Policy), Postdoc, University of Pennsylvania

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