

Full-Time Research Assistant for Professor Amy Finkelstein (2016)

Job Description

Professor Amy Finkelstein is looking to hire highly skilled and motivated full-time research assistants to begin in the summer or fall of 2016 and to work for at least one year, and preferably two. The position will entail close collaboration and assistance with all stages of empirical research in health economics. Examples of the types of projects research assistants would work on include understanding the causes and consequences of large-scale geographic variation in healthcare spending (see e.g. <http://economics.mit.edu/files/10259>), analysis of market failures and government intervention in health insurance markets (see e.g. <http://economics.mit.edu/files/10388>), and design and analysis of randomized evaluations of interventions in US health care delivery, (see e.g. www.nber.org/oregon and [super-utilizers](#)).

Qualifications

The ideal candidate will have the following qualifications:

- Strong quantitative background
- Strong computer skills including programming
- Ability to work independently
- Long-term interest in pursuing a PhD in economics
- Background in economics a plus, but not necessary (Professor Finkelstein welcomes candidates with strong technical backgrounds who are looking for more exposure to economics.)
- Prior research assistant experience strongly preferred
- Excellent grades required

The job is ideal for someone with an enthusiasm for empirical research, and the ability and interest to learn new skills and take initiative as a project develops.

How to Apply

- Submit an application through the MIT jobs board [here](#).
- Attach all of the following items **as a single document** in the “Submit a Resume” section of the application:
 - A cover letter that includes:
 - A brief description of your experience as a research assistant and with any independent research (e.g. thesis or other research projects)
 - A description of your familiarity with various statistical and computer packages (e.g. STATA, SAS, Matlab, Python, Perl etc.)
 - The names of two references (and their email and phone contact information) who will be providing written references. At least one reference must be someone for whom you have worked as a research assistant. Please indicate which references you have worked for as a research assistant.
 - A current CV

- A transcript (unofficial is fine).
- A condensed transcript. Please provide a written list of classes on the transcript that are in economics, mathematics, statistics or computer science. For each please include columns for the name of the course, the date taken, the school at which the course was taken, and the main textbook(s) used in the course. Please include any courses you are currently taking.
- The date on which you are available to start work.
- In addition to the online application, please ask your references to send a written letter of recommendation to Professor Finkelstein's attention to the following email address:
rharvey@mit.edu.

Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis. Short-listed applicants will be asked to complete a technical exercise and may be called for an interview in Cambridge, MA. We will only be able to contact short-listed applicants.

**While MIT's job posting states that visa sponsorships are not available, candidates requiring visa sponsorships are still strongly encouraged to apply. Even if we cannot hire you through MIT, we would like to review your credentials for potential employment elsewhere.