

Full Time Term Research Assistants for MIT Professor Amy Finkelstein (2015)

JOB DESCRIPTION: Full time research assistant to MIT Professor Amy Finkelstein

I am looking to hire highly skilled and motivated full-time research assistants to begin in the **summer or fall of 2015** 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/9782>), analysis of market failures and government intervention in health insurance markets (<http://www.nber.org/papers/w19393>), and design and analysis of randomized evaluations of interventions in US health care delivery (see e.g. www.nber.org/oregon and [super-utilizers](#)).

The ideal candidate will have (i) a strong quantitative background, (ii) strong computer skills including programming, (iii) be able to work independently, and (iv) have a long-term interest in pursuing a PhD in economics. Background in economics is a plus, but not necessary – I welcome candidates with strong technical backgrounds who are looking for more exposure to economics. Prior research assistant experience is strongly preferred. Excellent grades are 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.

The position is located at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) in Cambridge Massachusetts, with the opportunity to interact with economics undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty from both Harvard and MIT. Annual salary is \$52,000, along with access to the NBER's employee health insurance plan starting on the first of the month following the employee's start date.

TO APPLY: Please submit a single pdf document containing the following materials to the NBER online application system: <https://home.eease.adp.com/recruit2/?id=10705801&t=1>

Applications will be considered on a rolling basis:

1. 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.

2. A current CV

3. A transcript (unofficial is fine).

4. 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.

5. When you are available to start work.

In addition, please ask your references to send a written letter of recommendation to me at finkelRA@nber.org.