

RILEY K. ACTON
Curriculum Vitae

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Economics
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EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor, Miami University, Department of Economics, 2020 – present

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Research Affiliate, Institute of Labor Economics (IZA), 2021 – present
Research Affiliate, College Crisis Initiative, 2020 – present

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Michigan State University, 2020
M.A., Economics, Michigan State University, 2016
B.S., Economics & Mathematics, Ursinus College, 2015 (*summa cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa)

FIELDS OF INTEREST

Labor Economics, Public Economics, Economics of Education, Health Economics

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

“Is a Name Change a Game Change? The Impact of College-to-University Conversions.” *Economics of Education Review*, 88, 2022.

“The Influence of Peer Institutions on Colleges’ Decisions: Evidence from Fall 2020 Reopening Plans” (with Emily Cook & Allison Luedtke). *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, 195, 2022.

“Do Health Insurance Mandates Spillover to Education? Evidence from Michigan's Autism Insurance Mandate” (with Scott Imberman & Michael Lovenheim). *Journal of Health Economics*, 80, 2021.

“Community College Program Choices in the Wake of Local Job Losses.” *Journal of Labor Economics*, 39(4), 2021.

“Effects of Reduced Community College Tuition on College Choices and Degree Completion.” *Education Finance and Policy*, 16(3), 2021.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“Suspended from Work and School: Impacts of Layoff Events and Unemployment Insurance on Disciplinary Incidence” (with Jo King & Austin Smith)

“The Effect of Vaccine Mandates on Disease Spread and Economic Outcomes: Evidence from College COVID-19 Mandates” (with Emily Cook, Wenjia Cao, Scott Imberman, and Michael Lovenheim)

“Returns to School Spending in Rural America: Evidence from Wisconsin’s Sparsity Aid Program” (with Cody Orr & Salem Rogers)

“A More Promising Future? College Access and Adolescent Mental Health” (with Katlyn Hettinger)

INVITED & CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2022: APPAM Fall Research Conference (scheduled), University of Central Oklahoma (scheduled), Ohio State University (scheduled), NYU Wagner (scheduled)

2021: University of Memphis, University of North Texas, AEFP Annual Conference, SOLE Annual Meetings, University of Exeter, Liberal Arts College Labor & Public Conference, WEAI Annual Conference, Kansas State University, Davidson College

2020: University of Notre Dame, Miami University, Wake Forest University, Dickinson College, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, The Brookings Institution

2019: AEFP Annual Conference, University of Michigan H2D2 Day (poster session), University of Toledo, SOLE Annual Meetings, UM-MSU-UWO Labor Day, APPAM International Conference, APPAM Fall Research Conference, American University School of Public Affairs, University of Michigan CIERS Seminar, University of Texas at Dallas

2018: AEFP Annual Conference, University of Michigan CIERS Seminar, APPAM Fall Research Conference

SPONSORED RESEARCH

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, \$78,983, August 2021 – August 2022. “Impact of Sparsity Funding in State Formulas” (PI).

AWARDS & HONORS

Honorable Mention, Jean Flannigan Outstanding Dissertation Award, AEFP	2021
University Distinguished Fellowship, MSU	2015-2020
Department of Economics Excellence-in-Teaching Award, MSU	2018
Red Cedar Award (best third year paper), MSU	2018
Compton-Rose Prize (top graduating economics major), Ursinus College	2015

TEACHING & ADVISING

Courses taught at Miami University:

ECO 415/515, Topics in Microeconomics (S21, S22)

ECO 315, Intermediate Microeconomic Theory (F20, S21, F21)

Courses taught at Michigan State University:

EC 480, Analysis of Labor Markets (S19)

EC 202, Introduction to Macroeconomics (SU17)

Invited guest lectures:

Claremont Graduate University, ECON 371 – Labor Supply
Michigan State University, EC 485 – Economics of Education

M.A. thesis advising at Miami University (with initial placement): * denotes advisor or co-advisor

2022: Emma LaGuardia* (Chicago Fed), Davis Heyman (Jefferies), Sofiya Kryvoruchenko,
Jacob Pieniazek (84.51°)

2021: Jo King (NYU Wagner Ph.D.), Sidney Hutson (Cleveland Research Comapny),
Noah Tilton (Ankura Consulting Group)

REFEREE SERVICE

Economics of Education Review (x 3), Education Finance and Policy (x 3), Journal of Public Economics (x 2), AERA Open, American Education Research Journal, Contemporary Economic Policy, Economic Inquiry, Education Economics, Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis, Higher Education, Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Policy Analysis & Management, Journal of Public Economics, Quarterly Journal of Economics

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Graduate Studies Committee, 2021 – present
Visiting Assistant Professor Search Committee, 2021
Seminar Committee, 2020 – present
Diversity and Inclusion Task Force, 2020 – present
Co-Advisor, Women in Economics Club, 2020 – present