

# Andrew Christopher Barr

## Curriculum Vitae

Department of Economics  
Texas A&M University  
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### Current Positions

Associate Professor of Economics, Texas A&M University (Fa 2019-present)  
Visiting Scholar, Dartmouth College Department of Economics (Fa 2021-Sp 2022)  
Research Associate, National Bureau of Economic Research (Sp 2022-present)  
Ray A. Rothrock Fellow, Texas A&M University (Fa 2019-present)  
Research Network Fellow, Center for Economic Studies (CES) ifo (Fa 2018-present)  
Faculty Director, Texas A&M – US Army Office of Economic and Manpower Analysis Partnership (Fa 2015-present)  
Faculty Affiliate, Wilson Sheehan Lab for Economic Opportunities at Notre Dame (LEO) (Fa 2017-present)  
Faculty Affiliate, Center for Education Policy Research at Harvard (Fa 2018-present)

### Previous Positions

Research Network Affiliate, Center for Economic Studies (CES) ifo (Fa 2014-Fa 2018)  
Assistant Professor of Economics, Texas A&M University (Fa 2015-Sp 2018)

### Education

Ph.D. in Economics, University of Virginia Sp 2015  
M.A. in Economics, University of Virginia Sp 2011  
B.A. in Economics, University of Virginia, Award for Most Outstanding Major Sp 2007

### Fields of Research and Teaching

Applied Microeconomics – Social Mobility, Public, Education, Children

### Publications<sup>1</sup>

#### Peer reviewed journals:

- [1] Barr, A. and Gibbs, C. (forthcoming) “Breaking the Cycle: The Intergenerational Effects of an Anti-Poverty Program in Early Childhood,” *Journal of Political Economy*
- [2] Barr, A., Eggleston, J., and Alexander A. Smith (forthcoming) “Investing in Infants: The Lasting Effects of Cash Transfers to New Families,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*
- [3] Barr, A. and Smith, A. (forthcoming) “Fighting Crime in the Cradle: The Effects of Early Childhood Access to Nutritional Assistance,” *Journal of Human Resources*
- [4] Barr, A., Bird, K, and Castleman, B. (forthcoming) “[The Effect of Reduced Student Loan Borrowing on Academic Performance: Evidence from a Loan Counseling Experiment](#),” *Journal of Public Economics*
- [5] Barr, A. 2019. “[Fighting for Education: Veterans and Financial Aid](#),” *Journal of Labor Economics*, 37(2), 509-544.
- [6] Barr, A. and Turner, S. 2018. “[A Letter and Encouragement: Does Information Increase Post-Secondary Enrollment of UI Recipients?](#)” *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 10(3), 42-68.
- [7] Barr, A. 2016. “[Enroll or Enlist: Credit Constraints, College Aid, and the Military Enlistment Margin](#),” *Economics of Education Review* (special issue on College Access), 51, 61-78.

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<sup>1</sup> Author names listed alphabetically as convention in the profession.

- [8] Barr, A. and Dee, T. 2016. "[Property Taxes and Politicians: Evidence from School Budget Elections](#)," *National Tax Journal*, 69(3), 517-544.
- [9] Barr, A. and Turner, S. 2015. "[Out of work and into school: Labor market policies and college enrollment during the Great Recession](#)," *Journal of Public Economics*, 124, 63-73.
- [10] Barr, A. 2015. "[From the Battlefield to the Schoolyard: The Short-term Impact of the Post-9/11 GI Bill](#)," *Journal of Human Resources*, 50(2), 580-613.
- [11] Barr, A. and Turner, S. 2013. "[Expanding Enrollments and Contracting Budgets: The Effect of the Great Recession on Higher Education](#)," *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 650, 168-193.

#### Other academic publications:

- [12] Barr, A. and Castleman, B. 2019. "[Exploring Variation in College Counselor Effectiveness](#)," *AEA: Papers and Proceedings*, 109, 227-231.

#### Working Papers

- [13] "[An Engine of Economic Opportunity: Intensive Advising, College Success, and Social Mobility](#)," June 2018  
with Ben Castleman  
*Winner of Coalition for Evidence Based Policy Low-Cost RCT Competition*
- [14] "[The Effect of Early Childhood Education on Adult Criminality: Evidence from the 1960s Through 1990s](#)," (accepted, *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*) August 2020  
with John Anders and Alex Smith
- [15] "[You Can't Handle the Truth: The Effects of the Post-9/11 GI Bill on Higher Education and Earnings](#)," July 2021  
(NBER working paper #29024) with Laura Kawano, Bruce Sacerdote, Bill Skimmyhorn, and Michael Stevens
- [16] "[The Bottom Line on College Advising: Large Increases in Degree Attainment](#)," October 2021  
(EdWorking Paper No. 21-481) with Benjamin Castleman
- [17] "[Can Information and Advising Affect Postsecondary Participation and Attainment for Non-Traditional Students? Evidence from a Large-Scale Experiment with the U.S. Army](#)," January 2022  
(EdWorking Paper No. 22-529) with Kelli Bird, Benjamin Castleman, and William Skimmyhorn

#### Grants and Competitive External Fellowships

##### Funded (PI or Co-PI on all grants, PI on all fellowships):

Laura and John Arnold Foundation, 2022-2026 (\$424,318)  
 The Spencer Foundation, 2020-2022 (\$50,000)  
 Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, 2020-2021 (\$125,000)  
 The Kresge Foundation, 2020-2021 (\$100,000)  
 GTF and Temple Foundation, 2018-2023 (\$350,000)  
 Upjohn Early Career Research Grant, 2019 (\$5,000)  
 The Carnegie Corporation of New York, 2018-2019 (\$290,000)  
 Meadows Foundation, 2018-2020 (\$125,000)  
 Laura and John Arnold Foundation, 2017-2020 (\$299,843)  
 National Academy of Education / Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2017-2019 (\$70,000)  
 Russell Sage Foundation, 2016-2018 (\$57,219)  
 UC Davis Center for Policy Research Small Research Award, 2015-2016 (\$31,624)  
 Bottom Line, 2014-2021 (\$105,689)  
 The Kresge Foundation\*, 2014-2017 (\$140,000)  
 The Lumina Foundation\*, 2014-2017 (\$128,500)

The Heckscher Foundation for Children\*, 2014-2017 (\$138,074)  
 The Spencer Foundation\*, 2014-2017 (\$43,617)  
 The Lumina Foundation\*, 2014-2016 (\$130,000)  
 National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Grant, 2014 (\$15,800)  
 National Academy of Education / Spencer Dissertation Fellowship, 2012-2013 (\$25,000)  
 National Science Foundation / American Educational Research Association Dissertation Fellowship (\$20,000)

\* - Brought on as Co-PI and equal collaborator after initial application (fiscal agent, University of Virginia)

## Recognitions

Excellence in Reviewing Award	American Economic Journal: Economic Policy	2019-20
Best Feedback Provider on Research	Department of Economics, Texas A&M University	2020
Distinguished Affiliate Award	Center for Economic Studies (CES) ifo (Education)	2014
Snavelly Dissertation Proposal Award	University of Virginia	2012-2013
Pre-doctoral New Scholars Award	Association of Education, Finance, and Policy	2013
Bankard Pre-doctoral Fellowship	University of Virginia	2013-2014
President's Fellowship	University of Virginia	2009-2013

## Presentations

- 2021 – American Economic Association Annual Meeting, NBER Summer Institute (Public), NBER Economics of Mobility, Alliance for Early Success
- 2020 – NBER Children Spring Meeting, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM)
- 2019 – American Economic Association Annual Meeting, NBER Children Spring Meeting, Institute for Research on Poverty (IRP) Summer Conference, NBER Summer Institute Labor/Education, Center for Economic Studies (CES) ifo (Economics of Education)
- 2018 – Boston College, Harvard (CEPR), Spencer/NAEd Annual Meeting
- 2017 – UC Davis, Center for Economic Studies (CES) ifo (Economics of Education), Columbia (Teachers College), Rutgers
- 2016 – Texas A&M Big Data Workshop, Naval Postgraduate School, Society of Labor Economists (SOLE) Annual Meeting, Center for Economic Studies (CES) ifo (Economics of Education), Stata Empirical Micro Conference, Methods in Experimental Economics Research Conference
- 2015 – West Point, Stata Empirical Micro Conference, National Bureau of Economics Research (NBER) Economics of Education Group Fall Meetings, Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM), RAND Corporation, Texas A&M, University of Georgia, Upjohn Institute, University of Illinois, Notre Dame, University of Chicago (Harris)
- 2014 – Center for Economic Studies (CES) ifo (Economics of Education), Richmond Federal Reserve, Duke (Sanford), Institute for Research on Poverty (IRP) Summer Conference, National Academy of Education / Spencer Meeting, RAND Corporation, Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP, Southern Economic Association (SEA)

## Teaching

### *Instructor (Texas A&M University)*

ECON 690 – Theory of Econ Research	2017-18
ECON 603 – Public Economics I	2017, 2020
ECON 604 – Public Economics II	2017, 2019, 2020
ECON 412 – Public Finance	2016, 2020
ECON 610 – Labor Economics II	2016

### *Instructor (University of Virginia)*

ECON 4340 – Economics of the Public Sector	2012
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### *Student Advising*

PhD: John Anders (chair, 2019, Trinity University)  
Joshua Witter (committee member, Church of Latter Day Saints)  
Meradee Tangvatcharapong (committee member, 2021, Hitotsubashi University)  
Adam Roberts (chair, 2020, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency)  
Jiee Zhong (co-chair)

## Service

### Referee:

*American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Economic Review, Economics of Education Review, Education Finance and Policy, Economic Inquiry, Journal of Human Capital, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Labour Economics, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Journal of Public Economics, National Tax Journal, Scandinavian Journal of Economics, Quarterly Journal of Economics*

### Discussions:

- 2019 – American Economic Association Annual Meeting, Center for Economic Studies (CES) ifo (Economics of Education)
- 2017 – Center for Economic Studies (CES) ifo (Economics of Education), New York Federal Reserve Conference on Higher Education Financing and Costs and Returns of Higher Education
- 2016 – Center for Economic Studies (CES) ifo (Economics of Education), Association for Education Finance and Policy (multiple)
- 2015 – Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM)

### Departmental:

Applied Micro Group Coordinator, 2019-20, 2020-21  
Graduate Instruction Committee (member), 2019-20, 2020-21  
Undergraduate Instruction Committee (member), 2018-2019  
Co-director of Placement, 2015-2018  
Private Enterprise Research Center (PERC) Applied Micro Seminar Coordinator, 2017-2018

### College:

Research Advisory Committee, 2020-21

## Selected Media Coverage

- “To level the playing field in college completion, invest in advising”, October 30, 2021  
(<https://thehill.com/opinion/education/579232-to-level-the-playing-field-in-college-completion-invest-in-advising>)
- “Education experts weigh in on Biden’s Proposal to Triple Funding for Low-Income Schools”, October 29, 2020  
(<https://www.cnbc.com/2020/10/28/biden-proposes-tripling-funding-for-low-income-schools.html>)
- “Taking out a Student Loan Is Better Than Dropping Out”, *The New York Times*, September 6, 2019
- “The Downside of Reduced Student Borrowing”, *Inside Higher Ed*, July 12, 2019
- “The Benefits of Early Childhood Education and Health Programs May Last Longer Than a Lifetime”, *The Wall Street Journal*, September 25, 2017
- “Head Start May Offer Next-Generation Benefits, Researchers Say”, *Ed Week*, September 22, 2017
- “Who Benefits from Head Start? Kids who attend – and their kids too”, *Chalkbeat*, September 19, 2017
- Study Mentioned on *CBS This Morning*, September 26, 2017
- “College-Advising Model Yields Results for Low-Income Students”, *Ed Week*, October 26, 2017
- “Mentoring Program Posts 81% College Persistence Rate with Focus on In-Person Coaching, Affordability, New Study Finds”, *The 74 Million*, November 15, 2017