

Andrew Christopher Barr

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Economics
Texas A&M University
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Current Positions

Al Chalk Endowed Professorship in Economics (Sp 2025-present)
Associate Professor of Economics, Texas A&M University (Fa 2019-present)
Research Associate, National Bureau of Economics Research (Sp 2022-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)
Editorial Board, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy
Associate Editor, Journal of Labor Economics

Previous Positions

Visiting Scholar, Dartmouth College Department of Economics (Fa 2021-Sp 2022)
Ray A. Rothrock Fellow, Texas A&M University (Fa 2019-Sp 2022)
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, Labor, Education, Children

Publications

Peer reviewed journals:

- [1] Barr, A. and Gibbs, C. 2022. “[Breaking the Cycle: The Intergenerational Effects of an Anti-Poverty Program in Early Childhood](#),” *Journal of Political Economy*, 130(12), 3253-3285.
- [2] Barr, A., Eggleston, J., and Alexander A. Smith 2022. “[Investing in Infants: The Lasting Effects of Cash Transfers to New Families](#),” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 137(4), 2539-2583.
- [3] Barr, A. and Smith, A. 2023. “[Fighting Crime in the Cradle: The Effects of Early Childhood Access to Nutritional Assistance](#),” *Journal of Human Resources*, 58(1), 43-73.
- [4] Anders, J., Barr, A., and Alexander A. Smith 2023. “[The Effect of Early Childhood Education on Adult Criminality: Evidence from the 1960s Through 1990s](#),” *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 15(1), 37-69.
- [5] Barr, A., Bird, K., and Castleman, B. 2021. “[The Effect of Reduced Student Loan Borrowing on Academic Performance and Default: Evidence from a Loan Counseling Experiment](#),” *Journal of Public Economics*, 202, 104493.
- [6] Barr, A. 2019. “[Fighting for Education: Veterans and Financial Aid](#),” *Journal of Labor Economics*, 37(2), 509-544.
- [7] 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.

- [8] 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.
- [9] Barr, A. and Dee, T. 2016. "[Property Taxes and Politicians: Evidence from School Budget Elections](#)," *National Tax Journal*, 69(3), 517-544.
- [10] 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.
- [11] 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.
- [12] 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:

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

Working Papers

- [14] "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
- [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] "Bridging the Divide: The Role of Intensive Advising and College Quality in Narrowing Socioeconomic and Racial Gaps in Degree Attainment" with Benjamin Castleman April 2024
(revise and resubmit, *American Economic Review*)
- [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](#)," November 2022
(NBER working paper #30665) with Kelli Bird, Benjamin Castleman, and William Skimmyhorn
(forthcoming *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*)
- [18] "Which Workers Left the Labor Force Post-Covid and Why?: Filing, Tax-Credit Takeup, and Labor Force Engagement by Profession" with Laura Kawano, Bruce Sacerdote, and Michael Stevens (draft awaiting disclosure review) March 2023
- [19] "The Heterogeneous Long Run Effects of Universal Preschool," April 2023
with Alex Smith and Jonathan Eggleston (draft awaiting disclosure review)

Work in Progress

- [20] "The Life-Cycle and Intergenerational Effects of Free College,"
with Courtney Coile, Jonathan Eggleston, Josh Mitchell, Adam Roberts, Michael Stepner, and Alexi Strand
- [21] "The Short and Long Run Effects of Small Shocks: Variation by Timing, Size, and Resource Availability,"
with Jonathan Eggleston, Steven Mello, and Alex Smith

[22] “Long Run Effects of College Advising on Earnings, Family Formation, and Credit Access,”
with Benjamin Castleman
(supported by Laura and John Arnold Foundation)

[23] “The Impact of Prenatal Peer Groups on Parenting Behavior and Long Run Child Outcomes,”
with Richard Murphy

[24] “Long Run Effects of Hurricanes: Schooling, Peer Effects, and Labor Market Outcomes,”
with Scott Imberman and Bruce Sacerdote

[25] “High School Sports Participation and Labor Market Outcomes,”
with Bruce Sacerdote

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

Best Feedback Provider on Research	Department of Economics, Texas A&M University	2020, 2024
Excellence in Reviewing Award	American Economic Journal: Economic Policy	2019-20
Distinguished Affiliate Award	Center for Economic Studies (CES) ifo (Education)	2014
Snively 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

2024 – University of Wisconsin, University of Utah
 2023 – Cornell University, Center for Economic Studies (CES) ifo (Economics of Education), Montana State University, NBER Summer Institute Childrens, San Diego State University, University of Denmark
 2022 – McMaster University, Dartmouth College
 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
 ECON 603 – Public Economics I
 ECON 604 – Public Economics II
 ECON 412 – Public Finance
 ECON 610 – Labor Economics II

Instructor (University of Virginia)

ECON 4340 – Economics of the Public Sector

Student Advising

PhD: John Anders (chair, 2019, Trinity University)
 Joshua Witter (committee member, 2021, Church of Latter Day Saints)
 Meradee Tangvatcharapong (committee member, 2021, Hitotsubashi University)
 Adam Roberts (chair, 2022, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency)
 Jiee Zhong (co-chair, Miami University)
 Jacob Van Leeuwen (chair, expected 2025)
 Melissa Gentry (chair, expected 2026)
 Neil Duzett (chair, expected 2026)

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 Political Economy, Journal of Political Economy: Microeconomics, Journal of Public Economics, National Tax Journal, Review of Economics and Statistics 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:

Awards Committee, 2024-25
 Search Committee, 2023-24, 2024-25
 TA Award Committee (member), 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25
 Executive Committee (elected member), 2022-23
 IT Committee (chair), 2022-23, 2023-24
 Graduate Student Brown Bag (founder), 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25
 Applied Micro Group Coordinator, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25
 Graduate Instruction Committee (member), 2019-20, 2020-21
 Undergraduate Instruction Committee (member), 2018-2019
 Co-director of Placement, 2015-2018, 2024-25
 Private Enterprise Research Center (PERC) Applied Micro Seminar Coordinator, 2017-2018, 2023-25, 2024-25

College:

Research Advisory Committee, 2020-21

Selected Media Coverage

“I Have Studied Social Mobility for Years. Here’s How Kamala Harris Can Build an ‘Opportunity Economy’”, The New York Times
 September 20, 2024
 “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.cnn.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