

# CJ Libassi

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Website: cjlibassi.com

## Education

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### Teachers College

PhD in Economics and Education

September 2021 - Present

### University of Michigan, Ford School of Public Policy

Master of Public Policy

September 2013 - May 2015

### American University

Master of Arts in Teaching

August 2010 - August 2012

### University of Scranton

Bachelor of Arts in English, Spanish, and Philosophy

September 2006 - May 2010

## Publications and Works in Progress

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### Publications

- Judith Scott-Clayton, CJ Libassi, Veronica Minaya, and Joshua K.R. Thomas. "Who Rides Out the Storm? The Immediate Post-College Transition and its Role in Socioeconomic Earnings Gaps" *National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER)*, 2025
- Susan Dynarski, CJ Libassi, Katherine Micheltore, and Stephanie Owen. "Closing the Gap: The Effect of Reducing Complexity and Uncertainty in College Pricing on the Choices of Low-Income Students" *American Economic Review*, 2021
- Zachary Mabel, CJ Libassi, and Michael Hurwitz. "The value of using early-career earnings data in the College Scorecard to guide college choices" *Economics of Education Review*, 2020

### Working Papers

- Judith Scott-Clayton, CJ Libassi, Veronica Minaya, and Joshua K.R. Thomas. "Who Rides Out the Storm? The Immediate Post-College Transition and its Role in Socioeconomic Earnings Gaps", *NBER Working Paper No. 34366*, October 2025
- CJ Libassi, Michel Grosz, Sophie McGuinness, Jordan Matsudaira, and Rajeev Darolia. "An Overview of Graduate Borrowing and Outcomes", *OCE Working Paper No. OCE2024-007*, US Department of Education, January 2025

### Works in Progress

- CJ Libassi. "Pell Away from the Cutoffs: A Simulated Instrument Approach to Estimating the Effects of the Pell Grant from Changes in Formula Generosity Over Time" [Job Market Paper]

## Relevant Experience

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### US Department of Education, Office of the Chief Economist

Senior Advisor and Federation of American Scientists Impact Fellow

Washington

May 2022 - January 2024

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| <b>Community College Research Center</b><br>Senior Research Assistant                                     | New York<br>June 2021 - Present             |
| <b>College Board</b><br>Senior Policy Research Analyst  | Washington<br>April 2018 - March 2021       |
| <b>George Washington University</b><br>Professorial Lecturer  | Washington<br>January 2018 - May 2021       |
| <b>Center for American Progress</b><br>Policy Analyst   | Washington<br>July 2016 - December 2018     |
| <b>Education Policy Initiative, University of Michigan</b><br>Research Area Specialist                    | Ann Arbor<br>May 2015 - December 2016       |
| <b>Comunidad de Madrid</b><br>Fulbright English Teaching Assistant  | Madrid<br>September 2012 - December 2013    |
| <b>Prince George's County Public Schools</b><br>Foreign Language Teacher / Teach For America Corps Member | Upper Marlboro<br>June 2010 - December 2012 |

## Selected Other Writing

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- CJ Libassi and Julia Turner. "Debt and Earnings in Graduate School: Moving Beyond Standard Measures for the Typical Student in the Short Term." PSEO Coalition, 2025.
- CJ Libassi and Zachary Mabel. "A Closer Look at College Affordability: The Link between Living Allowances and Student Debt." Urban Institute, 2022.
- Judith Scott-Clayton, CJ Libassi, and Daniel Sparks. "The Fine Print on Free College: Who Benefits from New York's Excelsior Scholarship? An Essay for the Learning Curve.." Urban Institute, 2022.
- Jennifer Ma, Matea Pender, CJ Libassi, and Sandy Baum (co-author 2018-2019). "Trends in College Pricing" and "Trends in Student Aid." College Board, 2018, 2019, 2020.
- CJ Libassi. "The Neglected College Race Gap: Racial Disparities Among College Completers." Center for American Progress, 2018.
- Ben Miller and CJ Libassi. "Sharing the Risk: A Plan for Colleges to Participate in the Costs of Student Loan Failure." Center for American Progress, 2016.

## Teaching Experience

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| <b>George Washington University</b><br><i>Professorial Lecturer, Data Analysis for Journalism and Political Communication</i> | Washington, DC<br>Spring 2018 - 2021 |
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## Fellowships

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| Institute of Education Sciences Predoctoral Training Grant, PEAR Fellowship | 2021-2025 |
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## Invited Presentations and Conferences

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**2025:** APPAM Fall Research Conference (Seattle, WA), MidSouth Education Policy Workshop; **2024:** Office of the Chief Economist Conference, US Department of Education (Washington, DC); **2021:** Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP); **2020:** Society of Government Economists (SGE); **2019:** APPAM Fall Research Conference; **2018:** Southern Economic Association (SEA)

## Service

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**Referee:** *Economics of Education Review*, *Journal of Benefit-Cost Analysis*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Social Science Review*

**Co-organizer:** DC Economics of Education Seminar Series (2017-2019)

## Grants Received

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**2025:** PSEO Coalition Research Grant: “Debt and Earnings in Graduate School: Moving Beyond Standard Measures for the Typical Student in the Short Term” (Co-Principal Investigator with Julia Turner), \$15,000