

Dear Mr. Cohen,

I'm excited to be applying for the position of a Research Assistant for this fall. I came across this position through an email from the UCLA Econ Department, and once I saw the description, I knew this opportunity was the perfect fit for both my academic pursuits and personal interests.

Growing up in the Bay Area, I've witnessed the surge in homelessness in recent years and have worked with many at-risk families and individuals, which led me to pursue research pertaining to gentrification, housing, and homelessness. Last fall I took CESC 50SL with Professor Zack Ritter in order to receive guidance on my research and through the course, I've been able to develop a deeper understanding of the unique homeless situation in Los Angeles.

Likewise, I have had extensive experience working with raw datasets, both in an academic and professional setting. Through STATS 10, I've been able to refresh my knowledge on statistical sampling and testing, and I can confidently perform linear regressions, ANOVA tests, p-tests, t-tests, and analyses of normal distributions. Likewise, in STATS 20 I learned how to process text, transform numerical data, and create basic visualizations in R Markdown.

The majority of my data skillset comes from my professional experience. During my internship at Johnson and Johnson Vision, I spent the large majority of my time processing through thousands of measurements derived from raw clinical data. Using MATLAB and a special application called ZernikeTool, I scaled the numerical data into a more uniform dataset which was then fed into a deep learning model I constructed by myself. I then performed multivariate regression on the same dataset in order to prove that the outcome from my deep learning model was more accurate than traditional regression calculations.

Similarly, in my position at both KPOP Foods and Belong, I extensively utilize Excel to analyze all sorts of data sets. For instance, at KPOP Foods I constantly monitor our website data from Google Analytics and use that information to develop and visualize insights on our KPIs. Likewise, I've revised numerous financial and wholesale models through statistical forecasting. At Belong, I've been able to model the rental market size for various zip codes in Los Angeles by simply using the small data set I was given.

I believe both my academic and professional experience in data analysis coupled with my research interest in homelessness greatly complement your current projects. Furthermore, I have the motivation, skillset, and personal drive needed to succeed in this position. Thank you so much for your time and consideration, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

