

# Elizabeth Burland

Hartford Times Building, Fourth Floor · 10 Prospect Street · Hartford, CT 06103  
eburland@umich.edu · [elizabethburland.com](http://elizabethburland.com)

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

---

University of Connecticut, School of Public Policy Assistant Research Professor	Hartford, CT 2023-present
Other Affiliations	
Affiliate, Poverty and Inequality Research Lab, Johns Hopkins University	2019-present
Affiliate, Education Policy Initiative, University of Michigan	2017-present

## EDUCATION

---

University of Michigan, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy Ph.D. in Public Policy and Sociology	Ann Arbor, MI 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dissertation: <i>Stratification in Educational Decision Making: How Policy Interventions and Social Contexts Contribute to Inequality</i>. Co-chairs: Susan Dynarski and Fabian Pfeffer</li></ul>	
University of Delaware, School of Public Policy and Administration M.A. in Urban Affairs and Public Policy	Newark, DE 2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Thesis: <i>Governing Wilmington Public Education: Legal Legacy, Community Impacts, Policy Recommendations</i>. Chair: Daniel Rich</li></ul>	
B.A. (Honors) in Public Policy, University of Delaware, <i>Cum Laude</i>	2015

## PUBLICATIONS

---

- Elizabeth Burland, Susan Dynarski, Katherine Micheltore, Stephanie Owen, and Shwetha Raghuraman.  
Forthcoming. "The Power of Certainty: Experimental Evidence on the Effective Design of "Free Tuition" Programs." *American Economic Review: Insights*.
- Elizabeth Burland. 2019. "Wealth and Well-Being in the United States." Pp. 221–45 in *Wealth(s) and Subjective Well-Being*. Vol. 76, Social Indicators Research. Springer, Cham.

## WORKING PAPERS

---

- Elizabeth Burland. "Following in Their Footsteps or Avoiding Their Mistakes? The Role of Older Siblings in Shaping College Decision Making."
- Elizabeth Burland, Susan Dynarski, Katherine Leu, CJ Libassi, Katherine Micheltore, Stephanie Owen, Mary Quiroga. Experimental Evidence on the Effects of College Quality on Educational Attainment and Labor Market Outcomes.

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

---

- Varying Contexts, Varying Consequences: The Role of Geographic Variation in Shaping Educational Inequality.
- Postsecondary Education Choices and Tradeoffs: Treatment Heterogeneity in College Access Interventions (with Stefanie DeLuca).

Unequal Effects of Expanding Student Financial Aid? Effects of the 1992 Higher Education Act Reauthorization (with Fabian Pfeffer).

## SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, & AWARDS

---

### External Grants and Awards

2023-2025 Russell Sage Foundation, title: “How Do High-Achieving Low-Income Students Make Postsecondary Decisions? Identifying Mechanisms and Understanding Heterogeneity in the HAIL Financial Aid Intervention.” (*Co-PI with Stefanie DeLuca, \$182,867*).

### University of Michigan

2022 Robert Kahn Fellowship for the Scientific Study of Social Issues, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan (*\$25,000*).

2022 Doctoral Graduate Student Research Assistant Funding Competition: Research on Strategies to Prevent and Alleviate Poverty, Poverty Solutions, University of Michigan. (*\$11,598, declined*)

2017-2021 Institute of Education Sciences Fellowship and Predoctoral Training Program in Causal Inference in Education Policy Research, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy Education Policy Initiative, University of Michigan (*\$120,000 / 4 years*)

2020 Weinberg Graduate Student Award, University of Michigan Population Studies Center (*\$4,000*).

2020 Sarri Family Foundation Fellowship, University of Michigan Center for Political Studies (*\$6,000*).

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

---

Education Policy Initiative, University of Michigan	Ann Arbor, MI
Co-PI (with Stefanie DeLuca), Postsecondary Decision Making Study	August 2019-
Graduate Student Research Assistant, HAIL Scholarship Study (PI: Susan Dynarski)	August 2017-2021
Population Studies Center, University of Michigan	Ann Arbor, MI
Pre-doctoral Trainee	August 2017-2023
Institute for Public Administration, University of Delaware	Newark, DE
Administrative Coordinator, Wilmington Education Improvement Commission	August 2015- 2016
Graduate Research Assistant	August 2014- 2015
Washington, DC Experience, Program Coordinator	August 2014-January 2015
Delaware General Assembly	Dover, DE
Legislative Fellow	January 2014-June 2014

## RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

---

*\*Presenting Author*

### Invited Talks

2023 Elizabeth Burland\*. *Following in Their Footsteps or Avoiding Their Mistakes? Qualitative Evaluation of Postsecondary Decision Making*. Public Policy Practicum: Interview Research Project on Urban Education, University of Chicago.

- 2023 Elizabeth Burland\* and Stefanie DeLuca. "New Insights into the Postsecondary Choices of College-Ready Students from Families with Low Income." Ed Policy Talks Series, University of Michigan.
- 2022 Elizabeth Burland\*, Susan Dynarski, Katherine Micheltmore, Stephanie Owen, and Shwetha Raghuraman. "The Power of Certainty: Experimental Evidence on the Effective Design of "Free Tuition" Programs." TransferBOOST Webinar hosted by HCM Strategists.
- 2021 Fabian Pfeffer\* and Elizabeth Burland\*. "Unequal Effects of Expanding Student Financial Aid? Effects of the 1992 Higher Education Act Reauthorization." Michigan State University.

#### External Conferences

- 2023 Elizabeth Burland\* and Stefanie DeLuca. "Postsecondary Choices and Tradeoffs: Treatment Heterogeneity in College Access Interventions." Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM).
- 2023 Elizabeth Burland, Susan Dynarski, Katherine Micheltmore, Katherine Leu, CJ Libassi, Stephanie Owen, Mary Quiroga\*. "Experimental Evidence on the Effects of College Match on Educational Attainment." APPAM.
- 2023 Elizabeth Burland\* and Stefanie DeLuca. "New Insights into the Postsecondary Choices of College-Ready Students from Families with Low Income." American Sociological Association (ASA).
- 2023 Elizabeth Burland, Susan Dynarski, Katherine Leu\*, CJ Libassi, Katherine Micheltmore, Stephanie Owen, and Mary Quiroga. "Experimental Evidence on the Effects of College Quality on Educational Attainment and Labor Market Outcomes." Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP).
- 2023 Elizabeth Burland\*. "Following in Their Footsteps or Avoiding their Mistakes: The Role of Older Siblings in Shaping College Decision Making." AEFP.
- 2023 Elizabeth Burland\*, "Following in Their Footsteps or Avoiding their Mistakes: The Role of Older Siblings in Shaping College Decision Making." Sociology of Education Association (SEA).
- 2022 Elizabeth Burland, Susan Dynarski, Katherine Micheltmore, Stephanie Owen\*, and Shwetha Raghuraman. "The Power of Certainty: Experimental Evidence on the Effective Design of Free Tuition Programs." National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), Public Economics Program Meeting, Fall 2022.
- 2022 Elizabeth Burland\*. "Trust in the System: College Choice and Tension between Institutional Logics and Student Decision Making." American Educational Research Association (AERA).
- 2021 Fabian Pfeffer and Elizabeth Burland\*. "Unequal Effects of Expanding Student Financial Aid? Effects of the 1992 Higher Education Act Reauthorization." Population Association of America (PAA).
- 2021 Elizabeth Burland\*. "How Do Students Make Postsecondary Decisions? A Qualitative Analysis of the Role of Financial Aid Interventions in Shaping Student Choices." AEFP.
- 2021 Elizabeth Burland, Susan Dynarski\*, Katherine Micheltmore, Stephanie Owen, and Shwetha Raghuraman. "Large-scale policies to reduce income gaps in college enrollment: Evidence from the HAIL Scholarship and the Go Blue Guarantee." AEFP.
- 2020 Fabian Pfeffer and Elizabeth Burland\*. "Unequal Effects of Expanding Student Financial Aid? Effects of the 1992 Higher Education Act Reauthorization." PAA. *Meeting cancelled due to COVID19.*
- 2019 Fabian Pfeffer and Elizabeth Burland\*. "Unequal Effects of Expanding Student Financial Aid? Effects of the 1992 Higher Education Act Reauthorization." AEFP.

#### TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

University of Connecticut  
*Teaching (as Instructor of Record)*

Hartford, CT

2023 Equity in Public Policy and Evaluation (the Case of Higher Education), School of Public Policy.  
University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI  
*Teaching (as Graduate Student Instructor)*

2021 Evaluating Public Policies (Program Evaluation for Public Policy), Ford School of Public Policy (PubPol479).  
*Guest Lecturer*

2021, 2022 Causal Inference in Education Policy Research, Ford School of Public Policy (PubPol 712). Title: *Mixed Methods Research: Implementing a Qualitative Study within a Randomized, Controlled Trial*.

2021 Children and Youth Services and Social Policies, School of Social Work (SSW 633). Title: *Education Policy and Funding Higher Education*.

2019 Urban Inequality, Department of Sociology (SOC 335). Title: *Educational Inequality in an Urban Context*.  
*Mentorship*

2021-2023 Training Lead, Qualitative Interview Methods and Qualitative Coding in MAXQDA.

2020-2023 Project Manager, Postsecondary Student Decision Making Study. (10 research assistants).

2019 Graduate Student Preliminary Exam Mentor, Department of Sociology. Subject area: Demography: Inequality, Family, Health and Aging, and Demographic Methods. (4 PhD students).

2019 Sociology Undergraduate Research Opportunity (SURO) supervisor. *Project*: “The Effects of Expanding Financial Aid: Higher Education Act Re-Authorization of 1992.” (1 research assistant)

University of Delaware Newark, DE  
*Teaching (as Teaching Assistant)*

2015 Working and Learning in Washington, DC., Co-listed Department of Political Science and the School of Public Policy and Administration (POSC 483/UAPP 433/UAPP 733-010).

## RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

---

Institute for Public Administration, University of Delaware Newark, DE  
Washington, DC Experience, Program Coordinator August 2014-January 2015

- Coordinated and supervised 20 undergraduate students in Washington, DC internships.
- Arranged lectures and 4 guest speaker visits to support student learning.
- Developed a student-alumni networking program to facilitate network development and unique student career goals.

Delaware General Assembly Dover, DE  
Legislative Fellow January 2014-June 2014

- Generated research-driven answers for key policy stakeholders to support constituent relations and legislative decision-making.
- Facilitated productive discussions among policy actors and inclusion of community voices.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

---

Journal Reviewer

- Higher Education
- International Journal of Comparative Sociology
- Center for Inequality Dynamics Working Paper Series

American Sociological Association

- Section on Inequality, Poverty, and Mobility (Communications Committee 2018-2019)
- Section on Sociology of Education (Newsletter Editor, August 2018)

#### University of Michigan Service

- Education Policy Initiative Antiracism Working Group (Participant 2020-present)
- Ford School of Public Policy, Ph.D. Admissions Committee (Committee member 2017-2019, 2022)
- Virtual Inequality Brownbag, Center for Inequality Dynamics (Organizing Committee 2021)
- Causal Inference in Education Research Seminar (Co-coordinator 2019-2021; Participant, 2016-present)
- Causal Inference in Education Research Seminar Climate & Inclusion Working Group (2019-present)
- Center for Inequality Dynamics (Affiliate, 2019-present)
- Inequality, Demography and Family Workshop (Co-coordinator 2018-2019; Participant 2016-present)
- Workshop on Race and Racial Ideologies (Participant 2017-present)
- Sociology Department Graduate Student Recruitment Coordinator (2020-2021)
- Workshop on Poverty and Inequality, Poverty Solutions (Participant 2017-2019)

#### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

---

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management  
 Association for Education Finance and Policy  
 American Education Research Association  
 American Sociological Association  
 Population Association of America