

Elissa M. Cohen

EDUCATION	American University , Washington, DC	
	<i>Ph.D.</i> , Economics	August 2023
	<i>M.A.</i> , Economics	May 2019
	<i>Certificate</i> : Greenberg Seminars in Effective Teaching	April 2020
	<i>Dissertation</i> : Evaluating the Validity of the Value of a Statistical Life	
	Santa Fe Institute , Santa Fe, NM	
	<i>Complex Systems Summer School</i>	Summer 2019
	Cornell University , Ithaca, NY	
	<i>A.B.</i> , Economics, Sociology	May 2012
	<i>Magna cum laude</i>	
	London School of Economics , London, UK	
	Political Economy, Development Economics	Summer 2010
PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	Business Economist : Consumer Research	Dec 2024 — Present
	Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Washington, DC	
	Research Associate : Consumer Research	Sep 2023 — Dec 2024
	Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Washington, DC	
	Economist – US Pathways : Banking Research	Jun 2021 — Sep 2023
	Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Washington, DC	
	Analyst : Intellectual Property	Jan 2017 — May 2019
	NERA Economic Consulting, Washington, DC	
	Research Associate : Income and Benefits Policy Center	Jan 2015 — Dec 2016
	Urban Institute, Washington, DC	
	Research Assistant : Income and Benefits Policy Center	Jun 2012 — Dec 2014
	Urban Institute, Washington, DC	
ACADEMIC RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	Graduate Research Assistant : Info-Metrics Institute	Aug 2019 — Aug 2020
	For Professor Amos Golan	Summer 2021
	American University, Washington, DC	
SCHOLARSHIPS HONORS, AND AWARDS	Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant	2021— 2023
	National Science Foundation (\$29,876)	
	Graduate Student Research Award	Spring 2021
	American University (\$800)	
	Graduate Student Scholarship	Spring 2020
	International Society of Artificial Life (\$350)	
	Graduate Student Research Award	Spring 2019
	American University (\$500)	
	Graduate Economics Fellowship	2017 — 2021
	American University (\$23,000/year)	
	Emerging Scholar Award	2016
	U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services	

**PEER-
REVIEWED
PUBLICATIONS**

Cika, A., **Cohen, E.**, Kruszewski G., Seet, L., Steinmann, P., and Yin, W. (2020). *Resilient Life: An Exploration of Perturbed Autopoietic Patterns in Conway's Game of Life*. In L. Soros, J. Bongard, and J. Lovato (Ed.), *Proceedings of the Artificial Life Conference 2020 (ALIFE 2020)* 32, 656-664. Burlington, Vermont: MIT Press. [Link here.](#)

**POLICY
PUBLICATIONS**

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. (2024). *FDIC Survey of VITA Providers*. Washington, DC. [Link here.](#)

Eyster, L., Harford, C., Trutko, J., **Cohen, E.**, Mikelson, K.S., Durham, C., O'Brien, C.T., Martin-Caughey, A., Briggs, A., and Nguyen, K. (2019). *The Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grant Program: Implementation of the Rounds 1 and 2 Grants*. (Research Report). Prepared for the US Department of Labor, Chief Evaluation Office. Washington, DC: Urban Institute. [Link here.](#)

Mikelson, K.S., Eyster, L., Durham, C., and **Cohen, E.** (2017). *The Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grant Program: TAACCT Goals, Design, and Evaluation*. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. [Link here.](#)

Cohen, E., Mikelson, K.S., Eyster, L., and Durham, C. (2017). *The Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grant Program: Grantee Characteristics*. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. [Link here.](#)

Eyster, L., **Cohen, E.**, Mikelson, K.S., and Durham, C. (2017). *The Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grant Program: TAACCT Approaches, Targeted Industries, and Partnerships*. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. [Link here.](#)

Durham, C., Eyster, L., Mikelson, K.S., and **Cohen, E.** (2017). *The Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grant Program: Early Results of the TAACCCT Grants*. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. [Link here.](#)

Cohen, E., Minton, S., Thompson, M., Crowe, E., and Giannarelli, L. (2016). *Welfare Rules Databook: State TANF Policies as of July 2015* (OPRE Report 2016-67). Washington, DC: Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. [Link here.](#)

Huber, E., **Cohen, E.**, Briggs, A., and Kassabian, D. (2015). *Welfare Rules Databook: State TANF Policies as of July 2014* (OPRE Report 2015-81). Washington, DC: Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. [Link here.](#)

Huber, E., Kassabian, D., and **Cohen, E.** (2014). *Welfare Rules Databook: State TANF Policies as of July 2013* (OPRE Report 2014-52). Washington, DC: Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. [Link here.](#)

Kassabian, D., Huber, E., **Cohen, E.**, and Giannarelli, L. (2013). *Welfare Rules Databook: State TANF Policies as of July 2012* (OPRE Report 2013-27). Washington, DC: Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. [Link here.](#)

**WORKING
PAPERS**

Golan, A., Mumladze, T., Wilson, D., **Cohen, E.**, McGuinness, T., Mooney, W., and Moon, J. (2020). *Effect of Universal TB Vaccination and Other Policy-Relevant Factors on the Probability of Patient Death from COVID-19*. HCEO Working Paper Series Working Paper No. 2020-041: University of Chicago. [Link here.](#)

MANUSCRIPTS
IN PREP

“Context is Key: a within-subjects comparison of the Value of a Statistical Life.”

“The Value of a Statistical Life: A Gendered Perspective.”

“An Info-Metric Approach for Conducting Meta-Analyses.”
(with Amos Golan)

“Overweighted Expectation: A Psychological Explanation for the Financial Crisis.”
(with Mikaela Akrenius (Indiana University) and Ahyang Panjwani (Federal Reserve))

PRESENTATIONS

Chu, K., and **E. Cohen***. “The Landscape of Financial Well-Being Services.” Presented May 25, 2023. Presentation to Community Affairs, Division of Depositor and Consumer Protection, FDIC. Washington, DC.

Starr, A., Adomatis, X., **Cohen, E.***, Rodrigue, A., Zaki, M., and K. Chu. “Classifying Products and Services using Natural Language Processing and Machine Learning.” Presented Jan 31, 2023. Presentation to the Center for Financial Research, Division of Insurance and Research, FDIC. Washington, DC.

Zaki, M., Starr, A., **Cohen, E.***, Adomatis, X., and K. Chu. “Financial Well-Being Landscape Analysis: A First Look.” Presented December 16, 2022. Presentation to Policy and Research, Division of Depositor and Consumer Protection, FDIC. Washington, DC.

Cohen, Elissa. “A Comparison of Value of a Statistical Life Estimates Derived from Revealed and Stated Preferences: Pilot Results” Presented February 11, 2022. Poster presented at: 2021 SJDM Fall Research Conference. Virtual.

Cohen, Elissa. “The Value of Statistical Life: A Gendered Perspective.” Presented November 12, 2020. Poster presented at: 42nd Annual 2020 APPAM Fall Research Conference. Washington, DC.

Cika, A., **Cohen, E.***, Kruszewski G., Seet, L., Steinmann, P., and Yin, W. “Resilient Life: An Exploration of Perturbed Autopoietic Patterns in Conway’s Game of Life.” Presented July 13, 2020. Artificial Life Conference 2020 (ALIFE 2020). Burlington, Vermont.

Cohen, Elissa. “How the Minor in Inequality Studies Can Make a Major Difference.” Presented November 3, 2016. Cornell University - Center for the Study of Inequality; Ithaca, NY.

Cohen, Elissa. “Then and Now: Cash Welfare from the AFDC Program to Today’s TANF Program.” The Urban Institute. Presented June 1, 2016. Research and Evaluation Conference on Self-Sufficiency; Washington, DC.

Giannarelli, L., **Cohen, E.**, Briggs, A., and Huber, E. “Transitional Cash Benefits for Families who left TANF: New data from the Welfare Rules Database.” The Urban Institute. Presented August 25, 2015. National Association for Welfare Research and Statistics Conference; Atlanta, GA.

Huber, E., Kassabian, D., **Cohen, E.**, and Giannarelli, L. “Variation in States’ Child-Only and Non-Parent Caretaker TANF Rules: Evidence from the Welfare Rules Database.” The Urban Institute. Presented May 29, 2014. Welfare Research and Evaluation Conference; Washington, DC.

Kassabian, D., Huber, E., **Cohen, E.**, and Giannarelli, L. “States’ Child-Only and Non-Parent Caretaker TANF Rules: Evidence from the Welfare Rules Database.” The Urban Institute. Presented August 20, 2013. National Association for Welfare

Research and Statistics Conference; Chicago, IL.

**TECHNICAL
SKILLS**

Modeling & Analysis: Python, R, STATA, Mathematica, NetLogo
Software & Tools: L^AT_EX, MS Office, ArcMapGIS

**ACADEMIC
TEACHING
EXPERIENCE**

Econometric Methods (Doctoral): American University
Teaching Assistant for Professor Amos Golan Fall 2018

Advanced Econometric Methods (Doctoral): American University
Teaching Assistant for Professor Amos Golan Spring 2019

Applied Econometrics I (Master's): American University
Teaching Assistant for Professor Amos Golan Spring 2019

Microeconomic Theory I (Doctoral): American University
Teaching Assistant for Professor Sue Bahk Fall 2020

Intermediate Microeconomics (Undergraduate): American University
Teaching Assistant for Professor Robert Berman Spring 2019
Teaching Assistant for Professor Shirin Sabetghadam Spring 2020
Teaching Assistant for Professor Sue Bahk Fall 2020

Economics for Business (Undergraduate): American University
Teaching Assistant for Professor Mary Hansen Spring 2021

Introduction to Microeconomics (Undergraduate): American University
Teaching Assistant for Professor Daniel Lin Spring 2018
Curriculum Development for Profs. Mary Hansen & Kara Reynolds Summer 2020

Introduction to Macroeconomics (Undergraduate): American University
Teaching Assistant for Professor Ivy Broder Fall 2017, Fall 2018
Curriculum Development for Profs. Mary Hansen & Kara Reynolds Summer 2020

**COMMUNITY
AND
PROFESSIONAL
SERVICE**

Montgomery County Board of Elections 2022 — present
Election Judge

Complexity and Policy Studies Conference 2019 — 2022
Organizing committee member

IRS' Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program 2012 — 2017
Advanced tax preparer

**PROFESSIONAL
MEMBERSHIPS**

American Economic Association
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management
Society for Judgment and Decision Making
UNC - Charlotte Complex Systems Institute

**OTHER
INTERESTS**

Vinyasa and Power Yoga Instructor (RYT-200) 2014 — present
Ultimate Frisbee