

Elissa M. Cohen

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Citizenship: United States

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	Research Associate : Consumer Research	Sep 2023 — Present
	Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Washington, DC	
	Pathways Trainee Economist : Banking Research	Jun 2021 — Sep 2023
	Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Washington, DC	
	Analyst : Intellectual Property and Antitrust	Jan 2017 — May 2019
	NERA Economic Consulting, Washington, DC	
	Research Associate II : 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

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 Teaching Assistant for Professor Shirin Sabetghadam Teaching Assistant for Professor Sue Bahk	Spring 2019 Spring 2020 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 Curriculum Development for Profs. Mary Hansen & Kara Reynolds	Spring 2018 Summer 2020
Introduction to Macroeconomics (Undergraduate): American University Teaching Assistant for Professor Ivy Broder Curriculum Development for Profs. Mary Hansen & Kara Reynolds	Fall 2017, Fall 2018 Summer 2020
The Art of Teaching (Undergraduate): Cornell University Teaching Assistant for Professor Jeff Perry	Spring 2011

**COMMUNITY
AND
PROFESSIONAL
SERVICE**

Montgomery County Board of Elections Election Judge	2022 — present
Complexity and Policy Studies Conference Organizing committee member	2019 — 2022
SEIU Local 500 American University Graduate Worker Union Lead collective bargaining negotiator	2018 — 2021
IRS' Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program Advanced tax preparer	2012 — 2017

**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)
Ultimate Frisbee

2014 — present

REFERENCES

Prof. Mary Hansen (Chair)
Department of Economics
American University
Washington, DC 20016
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American University
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