

## LEXIN CAI

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## EDUCATION

PhD Candidate in Economics, Cornell University, 2020–2026 (expected)

MS in Social Policy, University of Pennsylvania, 2015

Bachelor of Management, Renmin University of China, 2013

## RESEARCH FIELDS

Public Finance, Labor Economics

## WORK IN PROGRESS

Local Responses to Federal Grants: Evidence from the Universal School Meals Programs

Effects of Eliminating SNAP Asset Tests on Program Participation and Family Wealth

Effects of Work Requirements in Means-Tested Programs (with Pauline Leung and Hyewon Kim)

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2022–Present Research Assistant for Zhuan Pei, Cornell University

2021–2022 Research Assistant for Pauline Leung, Cornell University

2018–2020 Research Analyst, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

2016–2018 Research Associate, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

2015–2016 Research Intern, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

2014–2015 Research Assistant, World Wildlife Fund

## TEACHING

Fall 2021 Teaching Assistant, Economics of the Public Sector, Cornell University

Spring 2022 Teaching Assistant, Behavioral Economics and Public Policy, Cornell University

## FELLOWSHIPS, HONERS, AND AWARDS

2023–2024 Jain Family Institute - Brooks School Fellow

2022 Brooks School of Public Policy Outstanding TA Award, Cornell University

2020–Present Sage Fellowship, Cornell University

2014 Dean's Merit Award, University of Pennsylvania

2010–2013 National Scholarship, Renmin University of China (X3)

2012 Global KU Scholarship, Korea University

## SERVICE

2022–Present Treasurer, Diversity in Cornell Economics

2022–Present Graduate Student Representative, Economics Diversity and Inclusion Committee

2022–Present Mentor, Graduate Student Association for Economics, Cornell University

2021–2022 Social Co-chair, Graduate Students in Public Policy, Cornell University

2014–2015 Co-founder, Wonk Tank, Penn Wharton Public Policy Initiative

## SKILLS

Computer: Stata, R, ArcGIS, LaTeX, Matlab

Languages: English (fluent), Mandarin Chinese (native), Cantonese Chinese (fluent), Korean (basic)

## OTHER

U.S. Census Bureau Special Sworn Status

U.S. citizen

## DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

Zhuan Pei (Chair)  
Associate Professor  
Department of Economics  
Brooks School of Public Policy  
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Pauline Leung  
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