

Nick Gebbia
nickgebbia@berkeley.edu
Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

PhD, Economics, UC Berkeley	2024 (expected)
Bachelor of Arts, Economics (Mathematics track), Pomona College	2014

FIELDS OF INTEREST

Public Economics, Labor Economics, Economics of Education, Inequality and Mobility

WORKING PAPERS

“Income Response to the College Financial Aid Implicit Tax”

(*Draft soon*; **Job Market Paper 2023-24**)

- I provide the first estimates of the elasticity of parent taxable income with respect to the implicit tax in college financial aid, an implicit tax schedule with high marginal phase-out rates - upwards of 30% - that primarily affects middle-income families. Because college aid is a complex and opaque system, I consider implications for optimal aid design if families misperceive the implicit tax schedule. To estimate the elasticity of parent taxable income, I leverage administrative Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) records in California and event study variation.

“Achieving Race-based Equity through Race-blind Policies: Evidence from a Local Preference in College Admissions” with Johnny Huynh (UCLA)

(*Draft soon*)

- We find that a previously unstudied college admissions policy - wherein 9 California State University (CSU) campuses offered an admission advantage to students from nearby high schools - dramatically increased enrollment at California 4-year public colleges among students from high underrepresented minority (URM) share high schools. This formally race-blind policy had a substantial impact on diversity in college enrollment, as increased enrollment came solely from high URM share high schools; in fact, the policy almost entirely closed the college gap between high and low URM share high schools. This finding is novel to the literature on affirmative action (AA) and its race-blind alternatives, and it is especially relevant following the Supreme Court’s recent decision to ban AA nationwide. As a methodological contribution, we formally decompose the overall disparate impact of this race-blind policy into several channels - including differences by group in treatment intensity and in treatment sensitivity - to illustrate when and how a race-blind policy can enhance equity.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

“The Long-Run Effects of Growing Up in a High-Crime Neighborhood” with Jonathan Rothbaum (US Census) and Matt Unrath (US Census)

“Local Economic Shocks and Human Capital Accumulation” with Julien Lafortune (PPIC)

“State Insurance of Local Public Education Funding” with Julien Lafortune (PPIC)

“Education and Labor Market Effects of Financial Aid Information: Evidence from the Texas FAFSA Mandate” with Sreeraahul Kancharla and Ale Marchetti-Bowick

PRE-DOCTORAL PAPERS

Nelson, Hal T. and Nick Gebbia (2018). “Cool or School?: The Role of Building Attributes in Explaining Residential Energy Burdens in California.” *Energy Efficiency*, 11(8), 2017-2032.
(<https://doi.org/10.1007/s12053-018-9681-1>)

Gebbia, Nick (2016). “Option-Implied Libor Rate Expectations across Currencies.” *International Finance Discussion Papers* 1182.
(<https://www.federalreserve.gov/econresdata/ifdp/2016/files/ifdp1182.pdf>)

RESTING PAPERS

“Did Information Frictions Slow the Great Migration? Evidence from Chicago Defender Newspaper Access, 1910-1930,” 2019

“Detecting Bias in Discretionary Police Stops: The Importance of Considering Non-Race Factors alongside Race,” 2014 (Senior year thesis)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

RESEARCH

Graduate Student Researcher (GSR): Prof. Jesse Rothstein, UC Berkeley	2019
Pre-Doctoral Research Fellow: Profs. Joshua Angrist, David Autor, Sally Hudson, Amanda Pallais, and Parag Pathak, MIT and Harvard	2016-2018
Senior Research Assistant: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System	2014-2016
Research Assistant: Prof. Hal Nelson, Claremont Graduate University	2013-2014

TEACHING

Graduate Student Instructor (GSI): UC Berkeley Department of Economics
Economics 140 (undergraduate econometrics), Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022

PRESENTATIONS

UC Berkeley (Public finance seminar; Labor & public finance mini symposium)	2023
UC Berkeley (Labor lunch seminar; Public finance seminar)	2022
UC Berkeley (Labor lunch seminar)	2021

HONORS AND AWARDS

LEAP Center Graduate Student Fellowship	2023-24
CPL Seed Grant (supports UC-CCP access)	2023
CPL Graduate Fellowship Grant	2023
IRLE Dissertation Fellowship	2022-23
Burch Center Fellowship	2022-23
David P. Gardner Seminar Fellow	2022-23
Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor (GSI) Award, UC Berkeley	2022
Opportunity Lab Place-Based Policy Initiative Grant	2021
Honorable Mention, National Science Foundation GRFP	2018
Leland M. Backstrand Memorial Award in Economics, Pomona College	2014
Eagle Scout, Boy Scouts of America Troop 399	2010

VOLUNTEER SERVICE

Graduate Student Mentor, Berkeley Economists for Equity (BEE)	2020-2022
Non-Testifying Expert Consultant: American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)	2017-2018