

**RILEY K. ACTON**  
Curriculum Vitae

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Department of Economics  
Miami University  
3018 FSB  
Oxford, OH 45056

Office Phone: (513) 529-2865  
Email: [actonr@miamioh.edu](mailto:actonr@miamioh.edu)  
Website: [www.rileyacton.com](http://www.rileyacton.com)  
Twitter: [@riacton](https://twitter.com/riacton)

**EMPLOYMENT**

Assistant Professor, Miami University, Department of Economics, 2020 – present

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Research Affiliate, College Crisis Initiative, 2020 – present

**EDUCATION**

Ph.D., Economics, Michigan State University, 2020  
M.A., Economics, Michigan State University, 2016  
B.S., Economics & Mathematics, Ursinus College, 2015 (*summa cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa)

**FIELDS OF INTEREST**

Labor Economics, Public Economics, Economics of Education, Health Economics

**PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

“Do Health Insurance Mandates Spillover to Education? Evidence from Michigan's Autism Insurance Mandate” (with Scott Imberman & Michael Lovenheim). *Journal of Health Economics*, forthcoming.

“Community College Program Choices in the Wake of Local Job Losses.” *Journal of Labor Economics*, forthcoming.

“Effects of Reduced Community College Tuition on College Choices and Degree Completion.” *Education Finance and Policy*, 16(3), 2021.

**WORKING PAPERS**

“The Influence of Peer Institutions on Colleges’ Decisions: Evidence from Fall 2020 Reopening Plans” (with Emily Cook & Allison Luedtke). Revisions requested at *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*.

“Is a Name Change a Game Change? The Impact of College-to-University Conversions.” *Under Review*.

**WORKS IN PROGRESS**

“Suspended from Work and School: Impacts of Layoff Events and Unemployment Insurance on Disciplinary Incidence” (with Jo King and Austin Smith)

“Returns to School Spending in Rural America: Evidence from Wisconsin’s Sparsity Aid Program” (with Cody Orr & Salem Rogers)

“A More Promising Future? College Access and Adolescent Mental Health” (with Katlyn Hettinger)

## INVITED AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2021: University of Memphis, University of North Texas, Association for Education Finance & Policy Annual Conference, Society of Labor Economists Annual Meetings, University of Exeter, Liberal Arts College Labor & Public Conference, Western Economic Association Annual Conference

2020: University of Notre Dame, Miami University, Wake Forest University, Dickinson College, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, The Brookings Institution

2019: Association for Education Finance & Policy Annual Conference, University of Michigan H2D2 Day (poster session), University of Toledo, Society of Labor Economists Annual Meetings, UM-MSU-UWO Labor Day, Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management International Conference, Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management Fall Research Conference, American University School of Public Affairs, University of Michigan Causal Inference in Education Research Seminar, University of Texas at Dallas

2018: Association for Education Finance & Policy Annual Conference, University of Michigan Causal Inference in Education Research Seminar, Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management Fall Research Conference

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Miami University: Topics in Microeconomics (graduate), Intermediate Microeconomic Theory

Michigan State University: Analysis of Labor Markets, Introduction to Macroeconomics, Honors Introduction to Microeconomics (TA), Honors Microeconomics & Public Policy (TA)

## STUDENT ADVISING (\* denotes advisor or co-advisor)

Miami University M.A. Theses: Emma LaGuardia\* (current), Jo King (2021), Sidney Hutson (2021), Noah Tilton (2021)

## AWARDS AND HONORS

Honorable Mention, Jean Flannigan Outstanding Dissertation Award, AEFP	2021
University Distinguished Fellowship, MSU	2015-2020
Department of Economics Excellence-in-Teaching Award, MSU	2018
Red Cedar Award (best third year paper), MSU	2018
Compton-Rose Prize (top graduating economics major), Ursinus College	2015

## REFEREE SERVICE

*AERA Open, Contemporary Economic Policy, Economics of Education Review (x 3), Education Economics, Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis, Education Finance and Policy (x 2), Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Policy Analysis & Management, Journal of Public Economics*

## DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Visiting Assistant Professor Search Committee, 2021  
Seminar Committee, 2020 – present  
Diversity and Inclusion Task Force, 2020 – present  
Co-Advisor, Women in Economics Club, 2020 – present