

Subject: Senior RA Recruiting

From: Michael Puempel <mpuempel@nber.org>

Date: 9/11/2012 9:06 PM

To: Kathleen.A.Butterfield@williams.edu

Dear Ms. Butterfield,

I work at the National Bureau of Economic Research as a research assistant for Professors David Laibson and Brigitte Madrian of Harvard, Professor James Choi of Yale, and Professor John Beshears of Stanford. Our group is looking to hire full-time research assistants to begin work in the summer of 2013.

The RA position entails a one-year commitment. We think it is an excellent opportunity for students in your department who might be interested in pursuing graduate work in economics, but who want to gain more research experience before beginning Ph.D studies.

Would you be willing to email a job posting to your department's senior economics majors, and other students who might be interested? I have included the job posting at the end of this e-mail and in an attached Word document, in case you would like to post it on a department bulletin board.

We would love your opinion as to what other departments might wish to share this listing with their students, particularly in quantitative disciplines.

If you have questions I can answer, feel free to email me or you can give me a call at [617 588 0349](tel:6175880349). Thanks for your help, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

Michael A. Puempel

Research Assistant

National Bureau of Economic Research

1050 Massachusetts Avenue

Cambridge, MA 02138

Full-Time Economics Term Research Assistant Job Description (Laibson/Madrian/Choi/Beshears)

Economics professors David Laibson (Harvard University), Brigitte Madrian (Harvard University), James Choi (Yale University), and John Beshears (Stanford University) employ full-time research assistants with start dates during the summer of 2013. This one-year position entails work on theoretical and empirical research related to decision making, savings, investment, health behaviors, and psychological economics. The research uses field data, experimental data, and hybrid field experiments.

Research assistants should have an interest in applying to a quantitative Ph.D. program (preferably in economics) and pursuing an academic research career. They must be detail-oriented and have strong programming and quantitative skills, including coursework in multivariable calculus, matrix algebra, probability, and statistics. Those with previous experience estimating econometric models (e.g. OLS, GMM, MSM, MLE) have particular priority in the hiring process. Excellent grades are required.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Your responsibilities include performing statistical analyses on large databases, designing and running experiments, programming simulations of theoretical models, and proving theoretical results.

For examples of our research, see <http://www.nber.org/digest/apr02/w8651.html>, <http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2011/06/03/1103170108.full.pdf>, and <http://www.nber.org/digest/jul06/w12261.html>

We prefer research assistants who want to become professional economists, but we're interested in future Ph.D.s in any quantitative field. Although we can't guarantee placement, we have a strong track record of developing talent. Our past full-time RAs have enrolled in the following Ph.D. programs: Harvard economics (8), Harvard business economics (5), Harvard public policy (1), MIT economics (2), MIT operations research (1), Princeton economics (1), University of Chicago GSB – finance (2), University of Chicago GSB – economics (2), University of Chicago history (1), and Columbia economics (1).

OTHER DETAILS

Wage – \$50,000

Openings – 3

Start Date – 6/15/2013 (negotiable)

Location – Cambridge, MA

EMPLOYER PROFILE

Founded in 1920, the National Bureau of Economic Research is a private, nonprofit, nonpartisan research organization dedicated to promoting a greater understanding of how the economy works. The NBER is committed to undertaking and disseminating unbiased economic research

among public policymakers, business professionals, and the academic community. The NBER is an equal opportunity employer.

TO APPLY

Please scan into one pdf document:

- 1) A cover letter describing your interest in and qualifications for the position
- 2) Your resume
- 3) An unofficial transcript

This document must be uploaded into the online application form, which can be found at this link:

<https://home.eease.adp.com/recruit2/?id=2111071&t=1>

If we choose to interview you, we will notify you of our decision, and at that point we will ask you for three references.