

JOB DESCRIPTION: Full-Time Research Assistant in Health Economics and Econometrics

Professors [Amanda Kowalski](#) (Michigan) and [David Chan](#) (Berkeley) are seeking several full-time research assistants who will contribute mainly to a project entitled, “Tradeoffs in the Distribution of a Scarce Health Resource: Evidence from a Large Randomized Natural Experiment.”

Positions are available at the **University of Michigan in Ann Arbor** with an **immediate start date or future start date between May and July 2026**. Strong preference will be given to applicants who have potential to work for two years.

Successful candidates will report directly to Professor Kowalski and will interact with her coauthors and other research assistants on a regular basis. Professor Kowalski’s current research is in the fields of health economics and econometrics and focuses on combining randomized experiments with theoretical models to target health interventions to individuals most likely to benefit from them.

Research assistants are involved in all stages of the research process and are expected to work independently within the scope of their responsibilities. Duties include, but are not limited to, collaborating on research design, conducting data analysis, interpreting results, training other research assistants, and drafting and editing manuscripts and presentations.

Candidates should have a long-term interest in pursuing research related to economics. Prior background in health economics is useful but not necessary. Preference will be given to detail-oriented applicants with previous work experience, particularly experience writing and working with large datasets in software such as Stata, SAS, R, or Matlab.

This position is ideal for candidates looking to develop their research skills in preparation for PhD programs in economics. Previous research assistants have matriculated to top PhD and joint MD-PhD programs, many with prestigious national fellowships (Hertz, 3 with NSF). Placements include programs in health policy (3 at Harvard), medicine and health care management (Penn), economics (Berkeley, Harvard, Michigan), business economics (Chicago Booth, Harvard, Michigan), policy economics (Michigan), and computer science (Carnegie Mellon). For continuing education, research assistants have opportunities to attend weekly seminars in economics and to get feedback on their independent research ideas. Salary will be competitive with other research assistant positions.

TO APPLY:

Please email kowalski.predoc.hiring@umich.edu a *single* PDF document named “Lastname_Firstname” containing the following materials:

1. A cover letter describing:
 - a. Your interest in this position and how you learned about it
 - b. The start and end dates during which you would be available to fill this position
 - c. Your familiarity with programming languages (*e.g.* Stata, SAS, Matlab, ArcGIS)
 - d. Your prior experience as a research assistant, in the private sector, and/or with independent research projects
 - e. A previous experience that involved working in a team environment
 - f. Whether you require Visa sponsorship, and if so, what type
 - g. Names, e-mail addresses, and phone numbers of 3 references (letters not required)
2. A current CV
3. All relevant undergraduate and graduate transcripts (unofficial is fine)
4. A written list of classes currently in-progress and taken in the past that are in economics, mathematics, or statistics. Please indicate the name of the course, semester/year taken, the institution at which the course was taken, and grade attained.
5. An original research paper (if available)

Applications will be considered on a rolling basis. This posting was updated on September 5th, 2025. It will be taken down promptly from <https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/amanda-kowalski/research-team/> if all positions have been filled, so there is no need to inquire if positions are still available.