

Taylor K. Odle

University of Wisconsin-Madison
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Academic Appointments

University of Wisconsin-Madison	2022-Present
Assistant Professor, Department of Educational Policy Studies	

Affiliations

Data Science Institute, UW-Madison	2023-Present
Institute for Research on Poverty, UW-Madison	2022-Present
Interdisciplinary Training Program in Education Sciences, UW-Madison	2022-Present
Institute for Diversity Science, UW-Madison	2024-Present

Education

Ph.D.	Higher Education, University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education Institute of Education Sciences Predoctoral Fellow American Educational Research Association/National Science Foundation Dissertation Fellow Dissertation (with distinction): <i>Three Essays in Economics, Education Policy, and Inequality</i> ** Winner of the 2023 AERA (Division J) Outstanding Dissertation Award **	2022
A.M.	Statistics and Data Science, University of Pennsylvania, The Wharton School	2020
M.Ed.	Higher Education Administration, Vanderbilt University, Peabody College Concentrations in Public Policy and Quantitative Methods	2016
B.A.	College Scholars: Organizational Behavior, University of Tennessee-Knoxville Chancellor's Honors and Howard H. Baker Jr. Scholar, <i>summa cum laude</i> , Phi Kappa Phi Minors in Business and Psychology	2014
	Certificate of Advanced Studies in Education Sciences, University of Pennsylvania	2022
	Graduate Certificate in College and University Teaching, University of Pennsylvania	2020

Research

Interests and Expertise

Economics of education; education policy; college access and success; educational inequality and economic opportunity; applied data science, causal inference, and program evaluation; research-practice partnerships

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles (* alphabetical; + student; ^ policymaker/practitioner)

15. Duke, S., & Odle, T. K. (Online First). Does free college “work” for adult learners? Enrollment impacts of Michigan Reconnect. *Educational Researcher*, 1-11. doi: [10.3102/0013189X251393204](https://doi.org/10.3102/0013189X251393204).
14. Odle, T. K., & Otero, S. (Ahead of Print). Institutional responses to tuition controls: Evidence from Tennessee's tuition ranges. *The Review of Higher Education*, 1-39. doi: [10.1353/rhe.0.a978513](https://doi.org/10.1353/rhe.0.a978513).

13. Delaney, J. A., & Odle, T. K. (2025). State-level common application policies and college enrollment. *Education Finance and Policy*, 20(1), 164-171. doi: [10.1162/edfp_a_00439](https://doi.org/10.1162/edfp_a_00439).
12. Odle, T. K., Gottfried, M. A., Miller, T., & Andrews, R. (2025). Who's matched up? Access to same-race instructors in higher education. *Economics of Education Review*, 102619 (In Press). doi: [10.1016/j.econedurev.2024.102619](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.econedurev.2024.102619).
11. Odle, T. K., Wright-Kim, J., & Castrejón, A.+ (2025). Whose last dollar? Estimating the effects of promise programs on financial aid awards. *The Journal of Higher Education*, 1-30. doi: [10.1080/00221546.2025.2455332](https://doi.org/10.1080/00221546.2025.2455332).
10. Freeman, J. A.+, Gottfried, M. A., & Odle, T. K. (2024). Explaining course enrollment gaps in high school: Examination of gender-imbalance in the applied sciences. *Educational Policy*, 38(4), 897-936. doi: [10.1177/08959048231174884](https://doi.org/10.1177/08959048231174884).
9. Delaney, J. A., Trinh, T. M., & Odle, T. K. (2023). Direct admissions: policies and principles. *College & University*, 98(3), 75-80. <https://eric.ed.gov/?q=ED652189&id=ED652189>.
8. Gottfried, M. A., Freeman, J. A.+, Odle, T. K., Plasman, J. S., Klasik, D., & Dougherty, S. (2023). Does high school STEMM career coursework align with college employment? *Teachers College Record*, 125(3), 207-236. doi: [10.1177/01614681231175199](https://doi.org/10.1177/01614681231175199).
7. Odle, T. K., Bae, J.+, & González Canché, M. S. (2023). The effect of the Uniform Bar Examination on admissions, diversity, affordability, and employment prospects across law schools in the United States. *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, 45(3), 520-529. doi: [10.3102/0162373722113180](https://doi.org/10.3102/0162373722113180).
6. Odle, T. K., & Russell, L. C. (2023). The impact of reverse transfer associate degrees on education and labor market outcomes. *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, 42(3), 648-676. doi: [10.1002/pam.22480](https://doi.org/10.1002/pam.22480).
 ** Winner of the 2023 APPAM Raymond Vernon Memorial Award **
5. Gurantz, O., & Odle, T. K. (2022). The impact of merit aid on college choice and degree attainment: Reexamining Florida's Bright Futures program. *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, 44(1), 79-104. doi: [10.3102/01623737211030489](https://doi.org/10.3102/01623737211030489).
4. Odle, T. K. (2022). Free to spend? Institutional autonomy and expenditures on executive compensation, faculty salaries, and research activities. *Research in Higher Education*, 63, 1-32. doi: [10.1007/s11162-021-09642-y](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11162-021-09642-y).
3. Odle, T. K., & Delaney, J. A. (2022). You are admitted! Early evidence on enrollment from Idaho's direct admission system. *Research in Higher Education*, 63, 899-932. doi: [10.1007/s11162-022-09675-x](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11162-022-09675-x).
2. Odle, T. K., Lee, J. C.^, & Gentile, S. P.^ (2021). Do promise programs reduce student loans? Evidence from Tennessee Promise. *The Journal of Higher Education*, 92(6), 847-876. doi: [10.1080/00221546.2021.1888674](https://doi.org/10.1080/00221546.2021.1888674).
1. Odle, T. K., & Monday, A.+ (2021). Spending more or spending less? Institutional expenditures and staffing in the free-college era. *AERA Open*, 7(1), 1-21. doi: [10.1177/23328584211034491](https://doi.org/10.1177/23328584211034491).

Revise and Resubmit

5. Castrejón A.+, & Odle, T. K. Did institutions alter financial aid during the test-optional movement: Early quasi-experimental evidence. Revisions requested at *The Review of Higher Education*.

4. Odle, T. K. Comparative cost analyses of community college student success initiatives ([EdWorkingPaper: 25-1268](#); [Policy and Practice Summary](#)). Revisions requested at *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*.
3. Odle, T. K. The power of 'free' college: Reducing racial and socioeconomic inequalities in college expectations ([EdWorkingPaper: 22-565](#)). Revisions requested at *Economics of Education Review*.
2. Odle, T. K., Duke, S., & Dunens, E. High performing Pell institutions: Identifying and exploring colleges and universities with high low-income student success. Revisions resubmitted to *AERA Open*.
1. Odle, T. K.*, & Russell, L.* The role of education-industry match in college earnings premia ([EdWorkingPaper: 24-994](#)). Revisions resubmitted to *Education Finance and Policy*.

Under Review

2. Odle, T. K., & Delgado, P. L.+ No pay? No way! Teacher compensation reforms and the market for graduate degrees.
1. Odle, T. K., & McMullen, I.+ When and why does college advising "work:" Evidence from Advise TN.

Working Papers

6. Fu, N., Luo, S.+, Miller, T.*, & Odle, T. K. Student-instructor gender matching and female students' outcomes in STEM at research universities.
5. Hsieh, E., & Odle, T. K. Talks that matter: Exploring the relationship between conversations with counselors, parents, peers, and teachers and college attendance.
4. Luo, S., Fu, N.+, Miller, T.*, & Odle, T. K.* Student and faculty same-race matching at research universities.
3. Odle, T. K. "Non-submitters:" Evidence on students who start but don't complete a college application ([EdWorkingPaper: 23-819](#)).
2. Odle, T. K. & Nathenson, R. Geographic and community influences on college savings: Evidence from the universe of Pennsylvania 529 account holders.
1. Wright-Kim, J., & Odle, T. K. Another unfunded mandate? Institutional effects of Maryland dual enrollment.

Research in Progress

7. Odle, T. K. Can targeted college and career information improve college-going outcomes? Experimental evidence from the College Advising Corp.
6. Odle, T. K. Difference-in-differences with endogenous treatment: Issues and solutions in education policy settings.
5. Odle, T. K. Simplifying enrollment in practice: Studying the integration of direct admissions programs and financial aid.
4. Odle, T. K., & Castrejón, A.+ Impacts of direct admissions on racial and socioeconomic diversity.

3. Odle, T. K.*, & Russell, L.* The impact of stacking degrees: Are returns to a bachelor's degree different for workers who also have associates degrees?
2. Odle, T. K., Cullinan, D.*, Mayer, A.*, & Welbeck, R.* Improving two-year college and transfer student outcomes through SUNY Transfer Match, a direct admission program.
1. Odle, T. K., Wright-Kim, J., & Burmicky, J. A PLUS or a minus? A mixed methods investigation documenting the decisions and outcomes of students, families, and institutions in the Parent PLUS Loan portfolio.

Book Chapters

1. Delaney, J. A., & Odle, T. K. (2022). Direct admissions: Proactively pushing students into college. In O. A. Poon, & M. N. Bastedo (Eds.), Rethinking college admissions: Research-based practice and policy (pp. 165-184). Harvard Education Press.

Reports, Policy Briefs, Book Reviews, and Other Research

17. Odle, T. K., Wright-Kim, J., & Burmicky, J. (2024). Early insights on Parent PLUS borrowing across student and institutional contexts. The Debt Plu\$ Project, Wisconsin Center for Education Research.
16. Wright-Kim, J., Wang, M.+, Odle, T. K., & Burmicky, J. (2024). A PLUS or a minus: How Parent PLUS borrowing varies across institutions. The Debt Plu\$ Project, Wisconsin Center for Education Research.
15. Odle, T. K., Delaney, J. A., & Magouirk, P. (2023). Complex applications create barriers to college – some are trying to change that. Brown Center on Education Policy, Brookings Institution.
14. Odle, T. K. (2023). Direct admissions: Reimagining college applications to promote equity. The Campaign for College Opportunity.
13. Odle, T. K., & Glave, C.+ (2022). Review of P. B. Levine (2022), A problem of fit: How the complexity of college pricing hurts students – and universities. *Teachers College Record*.
12. Odle, T. K., Dundar, A., Shapiro, D., Chen, X., & England, B. (2022). PDP insights: Credit accumulation and completion rates among first-year college students. National Student Clearinghouse Research Center.
11. González Canché, M. S., Bae, J.+, Odle, T. K., Edgerton, A. K., & Fahl, C.+ (2021). *Employment volatility in the academic workforce: Implications for faculty financial and retirement plans*. TIAA Institute. Trends and Issues, June 2021 and Research Dialogue, Issue No. 181.
10. González Canché, M. S., Odle, T. K., & Bae, J.+ (2021). The effect of the Uniform Bar Examination on admissions, diversity, affordability, and employment across law schools in the United States. AccessLex Institute.
9. Perna, L. W., & Odle, T. K. (2021). Do some forms of paying for college “cost” more than others? Examining how the role of student work impacts postsecondary value. Postsecondary Value Commission, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.
8. Delaney, J. A., & Odle, T. K. (2020). Reducing red tape through simplification: How Idaho radically reimagined college admissions. Hack the Gates: Radically Reimagine Admissions.
7. Odle, T. K. (2020). Strategies to support adult learners and some college, no degree students “to and through” a postsecondary credential. Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness.

6. Odle, T. K., & Finney, J. E. (2020). *"Faultlines" shaping higher education policy and opportunity in California*. Institute for Research on Higher Education, University of Pennsylvania.
5. Delaney, J. A., & Odle, T. K. (2019). *Direct admissions: Investigating a promising, low-cost policy innovation to increase college access and equity*. Forum on the Future of Public Education, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
4. Perna, L. W., & Odle, T. K. (2019). *Recognizing the reality of working college students: Minimizing the harm and maximizing the benefits of work*. American Association of University Professors/Academe, 106(1), 18-22.
3. Perna, L. W., & Odle, T. K. (2019). *Before you decide to work in college, ask yourself these questions*. The Conversation.
2. Odle, T. K. (2014). *The implications of distance and envy in organizations: An exploration of leader-member exchange and organizational citizenship behaviors*. University of Tennessee-Knoxville.
1. Odle, T. K. (2014). *The Pell grant: Foundations, current model, and future public policy implications*. Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy, University of Tennessee-Knoxville.

Retired Research

3. Delaney, J.A., & Odle, T. K. A "Fast Pass" to college access: An evaluation of Hawaii's direct admissions system.
2. Odle, T. K., & Delaney, J. A. Experimental evidence on "direct admissions" from four states: Impacts on college application and enrollment ([EdWorkingPaper: 23-834](#)).
1. Odle, T. K., & Delaney, J. A. Advancing college-going: Insights from Direct Admissions Minnesota.

Funding

Competitive Grants and Fellowships

\$150,000 Arnold Ventures. 2025. *Understanding ROI: Cost-effectiveness of driving student success*. Principal Investigator.

\$715,000 Lumina Foundation. 2025. *Simplifying enrollment in practice: Studying the integration of direct admissions programs and financial aid (Phase II: Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation)*. Principal Investigator, with R. Weissbourd (Co-PI).

Related awards:

- \$450,000. Bloomberg Philanthropies. 2025. *Direct admissions in Tennessee*. (Award made directly to Tennessee Higher Education Commission for project activities.)
- \$300,000. Kresge Foundation. 2025. *Direct admissions in Tennessee*. (Award made directly to Tennessee Higher Education Commission for project activities.)

\$350,000 Lumina Foundation. 2024. *Simplifying enrollment in practice: Studying the integration of direct admissions programs and financial aid (Phase I: Planning)*. Principal Investigator, with J. A. Delaney (Co-PI) and R. Weissbourd (Co-PI).

\$348,342	Arnold Ventures. 2023. <i>A PLUS or a minus? A mixed methods investigation documenting the decisions and outcomes of students, families, and institutions in the Parent PLUS Loan portfolio</i> . Principal Investigator, with Jeremy Wright-Kim (Co-PI) and Jorge Burmicky (Co-PI).
\$214,035	University of Wisconsin-Madison. 2023. Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education (Increasing Social and Economic Inclusion). <i>Boosting equitable college and career outcomes: A research-practice partnership to study a scaled pre-college advising strategy</i> . Principal Investigator.
\$58,555	University of Wisconsin-Madison. 2022. Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education (Fall Research Competition). <i>Improving access to college for rural populations</i> . Principal Investigator. [Awarded but funding declined.]
\$25,000	American Educational Research Association/National Science Foundation. 2021. <i>Giving credit where credit is due: Causal impacts of reverse transfer associate degrees on education and labor-market outcomes</i> . Principal Investigator (AERA-NSF Dissertation Grant).
\$300,000	Joyce Foundation. 2021. <i>Improving college access in the Great Lakes and beyond: Reducing economic, racial, and geographic inequality</i> . Consultant (Research), with D. Tandberg (PI) and J. A. Delaney (Co-PI).
\$50,000	Spencer Foundation. 2021. <i>Direct admissions: Reducing economic, racial, and geographic inequality in college access</i> . Co-Principal Investigator, with J. A. Delaney (PI).
\$239,861	State Council of Higher Education for Virginia. 2021. <i>Statewide PK-12 and postsecondary college access campaign</i> . Consultant (Research), with J. Carpenter (PI).
\$898,617	Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education. 2020. <i>Development of an education return-on-investment (ROI) web application called Return on College (ROC)</i> . Associate Principal Investigator, with J. Carpenter (PI). Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program.
\$100,000	Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education. 2020. <i>University of Pennsylvania predoctoral training program in interdisciplinary methods for field-based research in education</i> . Fellow (IES Predoctoral Training Program), with R. Maynard (PI) and A. B. Bowden (Co-PI).
\$4.99 M	Office of Postsecondary Education, U.S. Department of Education. 2020. <i>Career and educational pathways exploration system (career pathways) program</i> . Consultant (Research), with W. Finch (PI), J. Carpenter (Co-PI), and D. Lang (Co-PI). Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE).
\$71,128	AccessLex Institute. 2019. <i>The effect of the Uniform Bar Examination on diversity, affordability, and employment prospects</i> . Consultant (Research), with M. S. González Canché (PI).
\$35,000	American Educational Research Association. 2019. <i>Performance funding in higher education: Connecting 40 years of policy, research, and practice</i> . Co-Organizer, with M. S. González Canché (PI), L. W. Perna (Co-PI), K. Callahan (Co-PI), S. P. Gentile (Co-PI), and D. Tandberg (Co-PI). AERA Education Research Conferences Program.
\$199,987	Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education. 2019. <i>A user-contextualized tool to make meaning of lifetime costs and tradeoffs associated with different degree programs</i> . Associate Principal Investigator, with J. Carpenter (PI). Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR).

\$60,500	Joyce Foundation. 2019. <i>Direct admissions: A college-access focus on supports for low-income students and students of color</i> . Consultant (Research), with J. A. Delaney (PI) and M. S. González Canché (Co-PI).
\$70,000	TIAA Institute. 2018. <i>Employment volatility in the academic workforce: Implications for faculty and retirement plans</i> . Co-Principal Investigator, with M. S. González Canché (PI), J. Bae (Co-PI), and A. K. Edgerton (Co-PI).
\$300,000	University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education. 2018. <i>Dean's fellowship</i> . Student (Ph.D. in Higher Education).
\$23,500	Vanderbilt University, Peabody College. 2014. <i>Dean's tuition scholarship</i> . Student (M.Ed. in Higher Education Administration).

Other Funded Work and Contracts

\$10.0 M	MDRC. 2025. <i>Accelerating impact: Advancing evidence for postsecondary success and economic mobility</i> . Consultant (Pilot Design/Impact Evaluation), with A. Mayer (PI). Project funded by Ascendium Education Philanthropy.
\$1.76 M	Community College Research Center, Teachers College, Columbia University. 2021. <i>Paving the way to equitable, adequate, and effective community college funding</i> . Consultant (Benefit-Cost/Cost Effectiveness), with N. Edgecombe (PI). Subcontract (\$40,000). Project funded by Ascendium Education Philanthropy, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and Lumina Foundation.
\$344,940	Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education. 2018. <i>Does applied STEM CTE strengthen the college and career pipeline for low-income high school students?</i> Consultant (Research), with M. Gottfried (PI) and D. Klasik (Co-PI).
\$49,997	Association for Institutional Research. 2016. <i>Estimating the effect of losing the federal loan subsidy on debt accumulation for law and professional students in the United States: Evidence from a natural experiment</i> . Consultant (Research), with M. S. González Canché (PI).

Presentations

Expert Testimony

State of Tennessee, Tennessee Higher Education Commission (2024)

State of Minnesota, Senate Committee on Higher Education (2023)

University of Wisconsin Board of Regents (2022)

Keynotes, Invited Presentations, Meetings, and Workshops (including scheduled)

2026	University of Wisconsin, Madison (Educational Policy Studies, UW-Peking University)
2025	City University of New York; Come to Believe (College Access) Network Inaugural Convening; Peking University [canceled]; Rutgers University; Tennessee Higher Education Commission; University of Wisconsin, Madison (Educational Policy Studies, Morgridge Center for Public Service, School of Human Ecology)
2024	American Educational Research Association (National Science Foundation); Association for Education Finance and Policy; Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (LGBTQ+ Job Market Panel); Association for the Study of Higher Education (Research Methods Workshop); Lumina Foundation; National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators;

PROFS (Forum on the Future of Flagships); Tennessee Association for Institutional Research [Keynote]; University of Wisconsin, Madison (Educational Policy Studies Conference)

- 2023 Appalachian State University; Campaign for College Opportunity; City University of New York; Council for the Study of Community Colleges; State Higher Education Executive Officers Association [SHEEO] (Direct Admissions Community of Practice, Policy Conference); State of Connecticut (Governor's Office/Automatic Admissions Working Group); State of Wisconsin (Rep. Alex Joers); Texas Tech University; University of Wisconsin, Madison (Educational Policy Studies, Education Policy Across the Disciplines, Institute for Research on Poverty, Transfer Advisor Conference [Keynote], University of Wisconsin System, Wisconsin Union Directorate)
- 2022 American Educational Research Association (National Science Foundation); Association for Education Finance and Policy; Association for the Study of Higher Education; Come to Believe (College Access) Network; State Higher Education Executive Officers Association; University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education; University of Wisconsin, Madison (Board of Regents, BOR Direct Admissions Task Force, Collaborative Training Grant Fellows Program, Educational Policy Studies, Education Policy Across the Disciplines, Interdisciplinary Training Seminar in Education Sciences, Introduction to Educational Policy Studies)
- 2021 The Common App; Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness; University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education; University of Pittsburgh; University of Tennessee-Knoxville; University of Wisconsin, Madison
- 2020 Ascendium Education Philanthropy; The Graduate! Network; Grantmakers for Education; Hack the Gates: Radically Reimagine Admissions; Penn Graduate School of Education
- 2019 Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (Postsecondary Value Commission); University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education
- 2018 Tennessee State University; University of Tennessee-Knoxville; University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education
- 2017 Association for the Study of Higher Education; Tennessee State University

Peer-Reviewed Conference Presentations (* alphabetical; + student; ^ policymaker)

American Educational Research Association

- Odle, T. K., Duke, S., & Dunens, E. (2025). "High Performing Pell" institutions: A typology and analysis of institutions with high low-income student success. Denver, CO.
- Odle, T. K., & McMullen, I. (2025). Effects of the Tennessee AdviseTN college access program on college enrollment. Denver, CO.
- Odle, T. K., Wright-Kim, J., & Burmicky, J. (2025). Debt PLUS? A look at the characteristics and outcomes of Parent PLUS loan borrowers. Denver, CO.
- Delaney, J. A., & Odle, T. K. (2023). A "fast pass" to college access: An evaluation of Hawaii's direct admissions system. Chicago, IL.
- Odle, T. K. (2023). The effect of teacher wage-premium elimination on enrollment and degree completion in graduate education programs. Chicago, IL.
- Gottfried, M., Freeman, J., Odle, T. K., Dougherty, S. M., Plasman, J., & Klasik, D. (2022). Pursuits beyond high school: Can STEMM-CTE credits sustain college going and employment? San Diego, CA.
- Odle, T. K. (2022). The power of "free" college: Reducing racial, socioeconomic, and geographic inequalities in college aspiration. San Diego, CA.
- Dunens, E., & Odle, T. K. (2021). "High Performing Pell" institutions: A typology and analysis of institutions with high low-income student success. Virtual.

- Edgerton, A. K., & Odle, T. K. (2021). Worse than a last resort? Estimating the effects of Parent PLUS loans on student success. Virtual.
- Odle, T. K., & González Canché, M. S. (2021). The price is not right: Exploring unintended and heterogeneous outcomes of tuition regulation. Virtual.
- Edgerton, A. K., & Odle, T. K. (2020). Worse than a last resort? Estimating the effects of Parent PLUS loans on student success. San Francisco, CA (Canceled due to COVID).
- González Canché, M. S., Bae, J., Chiappa, R., Odle, T. K., & Edgerton, A. K. (2020). Diasporic academic partnerships: A comprehensive network analysis of factors affecting faculty-led U.S.-Mexico collaborations. San Francisco, CA (Canceled due to COVID).
- Monday, A., & Odle, T. K. (2020). Spending more or spending less? Institutional finance patterns and position counts after Tennessee Promise. San Francisco, CA (Canceled due to COVID).
- Odle, T. K., & Edgerton, A. K. (2020). The effect of teacher wage-premium elimination on enrollment and degree completion in graduate education programs. San Francisco, CA (Canceled due to COVID).
- Odle, T. K., & González Canché, M. S. (2020). The price is not right: Exploring intended and unintended outcomes of tuition regulation. San Francisco, CA (Canceled due to COVID).

Association for Education Finance and Policy

- Odle, T. K. (2026). “Non-submitters”: Evidence on students who start but don’t complete a college application. Chicago, IL.
- Odle, T. K. (2025). No pay, no way! Impacts of teacher compensation changes on graduate enrollment in nearby universities. Washington, DC.
- Odle, T. K., & McMullen, I. (2025). Effects of Tennessee’s Advise TN college access program on college enrollment. Washington, DC.
- Collins, L., Byrd, A., Baker, M., Odle, T. K., & Reddy, V. (2023). Access and admissions outside of elite institutions: Strategies for equity after SFFA. Baltimore, MD.
- Odle, T. K., Wright-Kim, J., & Castrejón A. (2024). Whose last dollar? Estimating the effects of promise programs on financial aid awards. Baltimore, MD.
- Russell, L. C., & Odle, T. K. (2024). The role of education-industry match in college earnings premia. Baltimore, MD.
- Odle, T. K., & Delaney J. A. (2023). Experimental evidence using direct admissions to reduce inequality in college admissions from four states. Denver, CO.
- Delaney, J. A., & Odle, T. K. (2023). A ‘Fast Pass’ to college access: An evaluation of Hawaii’s direct admissions system. Denver, CO.
- Freeman, J. A., Gottfried, M. A., & Odle, T. K. (2022). Can student and school factors explain gender differences in STEM-career coursetaking? Denver, CO.
- Odle, T. K. (2022). The power of “free” college: Reducing racial and socioeconomic inequalities in educational aspirations. Denver, CO.
- Odle, T. K., & Delaney J. A. (2022). Simplifying college admissions: Experimental evidence on direct admissions policies from three states. Virtual.
- Odle, T. K., & Russell, L. (2022). Giving credit where credit is due: Causal impacts of reverse transfer associate degrees on education and labor market outcomes. Denver, CO.
- Delaney, J. A., & Odle, T. K. (2021). State-level common application policies and college enrollment. Virtual.
- Odle, T. K., Bae, J., & González Canché, M. S. (2021). The effect of the Uniform Bar Examination on admissions, diversity, affordability, and employment across law schools in the United States. Virtual.
- Gurantz, O., & Odle, T. K. (2020). The impact of merit aid on college choice and degree attainment: Reexamining Florida’s Bright Futures program. Ft. Worth, TX (Virtual).
- Nathenson, R., & Odle, T. K. (2020). Geographic and community influences of college savings: Evidence from the universe of Pennsylvania 529 account holders. Ft. Worth, TX (Virtual).
- Odle, T. K., & Delaney, J. A. (2020). You’re admitted! Early evidence on applications and enrollment from Idaho’s direct admissions system. Ft. Worth, TX (Virtual).
- Wright-Kim, J., Odle, T. K., & Bae, J. (2020). Another unfunded mandate? Institutional effects of Maryland’s dual enrollment policy. Ft. Worth, TX (Virtual).

Odle, T. K., Lee, J. C.^, & Gentile, S. P.^ (2019). Do promise programs reduce student loans? Evidence from Tennessee Promise. Kansas City, MO.

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management

Duke, S.+, & Odle, T. K. (2025). Does free college “work” for adult learners? Enrollment impacts of Michigan Reconnect. Seattle, WA.

Odle, T. K., & McMullen, I.+ (2025). Exploring the mechanisms and direct impact of college access advising: The case of AdviseTN. Seattle, WA.

Odle, T. K., & Russell, L. (2025). The role of education-industry match in college earnings premia. Seattle, WA.

Odle, T. K., & McMullen, I.+ (2024). Effects of Tennessee’s AdviseTN college access program on college enrollment. National Harbor, MD.

Odle, T. K.*, Mayer, A. K.*, Slaughter, A.*, & Wright-Kim, J.* (2023). Connecting research, policy, and practice for equitable community college outcomes. Atlanta, GA.

Gottfried, M. A., Freeman, J.+, Odle, T. K., Plasman, J., Klasik, D., & Dougherty, S. M. (2021, Rescheduled to 2022/COVID). Does the share of STEM CTE coursework affect postsecondary pursuits? Austin, TX.

Monday, A.+*, & Odle, T. K.* (2020). Spending more or spending less? Institutional finance patterns and position counts after Tennessee Promise. Virtual.

Odle, T. K., & Edgerton, A. K.+ (2020). The effect of teacher wage-premium elimination on enrollment and degree completion in graduate education programs. Virtual.

Delaney, J. A., & Odle, T. K. (2019). Estimating the effect of state-level common applications on college enrollment. Denver, CO.

Odle, T. K., Wright-Kim, J.+, Bae, J.+, & Dym, A. R.+ (2019). Whose last dollar? Estimating the effects of a promise program on financial aid awards. Denver, CO.

Odle, T. K., & Gonzalez Canche, M. S. (2019). Bending the curve: Does tuition regulation lead to lower prices? Evidence from Tennessee. Regional Student Conference. Washington, D.C.

Association for the Study of Higher Education

Castrejón, A.+, & Odle, T. K. (2024). Did institutions alter financial aid during the test-optional movement: Early quasi-experimental evidence. Minneapolis, MN.

Duke, S.+, & Odle, T. K. (2024). Does free tuition make a difference? Assessing the impact of Michigan Reconnect on adult enrollment. Minneapolis, MN.

Odle, T. K. (2024). Effects of Advise Tennessee’s college access program on college enrollment. Minneapolis, MN.

Odle, T. K. (2024). Investing in equity: Cost studies of community college student success initiatives. Minneapolis, MN.

Odle, T. K., & Otero, S.+ (2024). Held too tight (or not enough)? Tuition regulation and institutional behavior. Minneapolis, MN.

Bae, J.+, Odle, T. K., & Wright-Kim, J.+ (2020). Leaky pipeline: Nearby college enrollment of low-income, minority, and adult students following a for-profit closure. Virtual.

Patel, P. R.+, Bodnar, M.+, Kaul, M.+, Odle, T. K., Finney, J., Dunens, E.+, & Adams, L. J.+ (2020). Fault lines in the (Master) Plan: State policy influences on California higher education performance. Virtual.

Delaney, J. A., & Odle, T. K. (2019). State-level common app policies and college enrollment. Portland, OR.

González Canché, M. S., Lee, J. C.^, Harding, J., Wright-Kim, J.+, & Odle, T. K. (2019). Estimating the effect of losing the federal loan subsidy on debt accumulation for graduate and law/professional students: Evidence from a natural experiment. Portland, OR.

Odle, T. K., Lee, J. C.^, & Gentile, S. P.^ (2018). The promise of no loans: Early evidence from Tennessee on promise programs and student loan behavior. Tampa, FL.

Odle, T. K., House, E.^, & Gentile, S. P.^ (2016). Funding the finish line: Emergency aid and student success. Columbus, OH.

Odle, T. K. (2015). Equity in educational research: Understanding the differential effects of financial aid across racial/ethnic groups. Denver, CO.

Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness

- Odle, T. K., & McMullen, I.+ (2024). Effects of Tennessee's AdviseTN college access program on college enrollment. Baltimore, MD.
- Odle, T. K., Edgecombe, N., Cardona, S.+, & Gastelum, G.+ (2023). Investing in equity: Cost studies of community college student success initiatives. Arlington, VA.

Other Peer-Reviewed Presentations

- Odle, T. K., Gottfried, M. A., Miller, T., & Andrews, R. (2024). Who's matched up? Access to same-race instructors in higher education. Access, Equity, and Education: A Conference in Honor of Rodney J. Andrews, Ph.D. Dallas, TX.
- Russell, L., & Odle, T. K. (2024). The role of education-industry match in college earnings premia. Labor and Employment Relations Association. New York, NY.
- Odle, T. K. (2024). Leveraging data to simplify college admissions. University of Wisconsin-Madison Research Bazaar. Madison, WI.
- Klafehn, A.^, & Odle, T. K. (2017). More than a promise: Financial and programmatic interventions at Tennessee community colleges. SHEEO Policy Conference. Minneapolis, MN.
- Odle, T. K., & Munyon, T. P. (2017). The space between: Distance in leader-member relationships and subordinate turnover. Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology. Orlando, FL.
- Odle, T. K., & Gianitsis, J. M. C. (2016). Research design, data analysis, and program assessment in student affairs. NASPA Assessment and Persistence Conference. Portland, OR.
- Boyd, K. D., Odle, T. K.*, & Robinson, K. S.* (2015). Infusing intercultural competence across leadership education. Association of Leadership Educators. Washington, DC.
- Odle, T. K. (2015). ACPA & NASPA professional competencies: Best practices in assessment. NASPA Assessment and Persistence Conference. Boston, MA.
- Odle, T. K., & Munyon, T. P. (2015). How far is too far? Distance on the college campus. American College Personnel Association (ACPA). Tampa, FL.
- Odle, T. K., & Munyon, T. P. (2015). The impact of expanding organizations on educational leadership. Harvard Graduate School of Education (Student Research Conference). Cambridge, MA.
- Odle, T. K., & Munyon, T. P. (2015). Organizational factors affecting the psychosocial development of leader-follower relationships. Association of Leadership Educators. Washington, DC.
- Odle, T. K., & Munyon, T. P. (2015). Seeing green: Exploring envy in leader-member relationships. The Academy of Management. Vancouver, BC, Canada.

Recognition and Awards

The Journal of Higher Education, Exemplary Reviewer Award, 2024
APPAM, Raymond Vernon Memorial Award, 2023
AERA, Division J, Outstanding Dissertation Award, 2023
AEFP, Jean Flanigan Outstanding Dissertation Award (Nominee), 2023
AERA/National Science Foundation Dissertation Grant, 2021-22
AERA, Division J, Conference Travel Award, 2021
Institute of Education Sciences Predoctoral Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania, 2020-22
Summer Fellowship, Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness, 2020
Penn Prize for Excellence in Teaching by Graduate Students, University of Pennsylvania, 2020
AEFP, New Scholars Award (Nominee), 2020
AEFP, Roe L. Johns Travel Grant, 2019-2021
ASHE, Graduate Student Policy Seminar, 2019
Dean's Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education, 2018-22
Travel Grants, University of Pennsylvania/Penn Graduate School of Education, 2018- 2020
Dean's Tuition Scholarship, Vanderbilt University, Peabody College, 2014-2016
Baker Scholar, University of Tennessee, Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy, 2012-2014
College Scholar, University of Tennessee, College of Arts and Sciences, 2011-2014

Chancellor's Scholar, University of Tennessee, Chancellor's Honors Program, 2010-2014
Phi Kappa Phi

Teaching

Awards, Certifications, and Ongoing Development

Chancellor's Deliberation Dinners [Faculty Facilitator], University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2024-25, 2025-26
The Discussion Project, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2022
Penn Prize for Excellence in Teaching by Graduate Students, University of Pennsylvania, 2020
Graduate Certificate in College and University Teaching, University of Pennsylvania, 2020

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Cost-Effectiveness and Benefit-Cost Analysis (on campus, graduate), *Instructor*
Economics of Education (on campus, undergraduate/graduate), *Instructor*
Introduction to Debates in Higher Education Policy (on campus, undergraduate/graduate), *Instructor*
Introduction to Quantitative Methods in Education Policy (on campus, undergraduate), *Instructor*
Is College Possible? College Access and Admissions in the U.S. (on campus, undergrad/grad), *Instructor*

University of Pennsylvania

Big Data and Program Evaluation in Education (online, graduate), *Instructor*
Advanced Public Policy (hybrid due to COVID, graduate), *Teaching Assistant*
Higher Education Finance (on campus, graduate), *Teaching Assistant*
Program Evaluation and Data Analysis (on campus, graduate), *Teaching Assistant*
Quantitative Research Methods on campus, doctoral), *Teaching Assistant*
Quasi-Experimental Design (hybrid due to COVID, graduate), *Teaching Assistant*

University of Tennessee-Knoxville

Ethics in Leadership (online, honors), *Instructor*
Theory and Practice in Leadership (on campus, honors), *Instructor*
Introduction to Leadership (on campus), *Teaching Assistant*
Servant Leadership and Social Justice (on campus, experiential), *Teaching Assistant*
Student Leadership Development (on campus, experiential), *Teaching Assistant*

Other Teaching and Training

Association for the Study of Higher Education, Research Methods Workshop. (2024). *Advanced quantitative methods for policy research in higher education*. Instructor. [\[Materials.\]](#)
American Educational Research Association Professional Development Course. (2020). *Network analysis of qualitative data: Relying on freeware, rigor, and transparency*. Teaching Assistant.

Advising and Mentoring

Doctoral Advisor (Primary) / Dissertation Chair

Adalberto Castrejón, Ph.D. in Educational Policy Studies, minor in Political Science
* UW-Madison School of Education Graduate Research Scholar (Ed-GRS)
* UW-Madison Interdisciplinary Training Program in Education Sciences (ITP) Fellow
* Just Education Policy Scholar (2025)
* SHEEO Summer Intern (2025)
Sky Duke, Ph.D. in Educational Policy Studies, minor in Program Evaluation
* UW-Madison School of Education Graduate Research Scholar (Ed-GRS)
* APPAM Equity and Inclusion Fellow (2025)
* SREE Summer Fellow (2025)

Dissertation Committee Member

Jared Colston, Ph.D. in Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis, UW-Madison
Christin Gates Calloway, Ph.D. in Educational Policy Studies, UW-Madison
Xinyu Guan, Ph.D. in Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis, UW-Madison
Nan Fu, Ph.D. in Economics, UT-Dallas
Noah Hirschl, Ph.D. in Sociology, UW-Madison
Heather Little, Ph.D. in Economics, UW-Madison
Siyuan Luo, Ph.D. in Economics, UT-Dallas
David Walker, Ph.D. in Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis, UW-Madison
Jake Wertz, Ph.D. in Sociology, UW-Madison

Other Mentoring and Supervision

Christin Gates Calloway, Ph.D. Prelim Committee Member (Educational Policy Studies)
Carla Glave, Co-Author and Ph.D. Pilot/Prelim Committee Member (Educational Policy Studies)
Erin Gill, ITP Mentoring Committee (Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis)
LaShanda Harbin, Research Assistant Supervisor (Educational Policy Studies)
Wenying He, Faculty Mentor (International Visiting Scholar; Minzu University)
Ellen Hsieh, Advisor and Ph.D. Pilot Chair (Educational Policy Studies)
Sara Lazenby, Ph.D. Prelim Committee Member (Educational Policy Studies)
Jacques Lesure, Research Assistant Supervisor (Educational Policy Studies)
Estela Lopez, Ph.D. Pilot/Prelim and MA Thesis Committee Member (Educational Policy Studies)
Elise Marifian, Research Assistant Supervisor (Economics)
Isabel McMullen, Ph.D. Prelim Committee Member and Research Assistant Supervisor (Political Science)
Salomé Otero, Research Assistant Supervisor (Urban Education Policy; University of Southern California)
Ji Tian, Faculty Mentor (International Visiting Scholar; East China Normal University)
Nicholas Torres, Undergraduate Research Assistant Supervisor (SERP Mentor; Amherst College)

Service

To the Profession

Editorial Board	<i>Journal of Research on Educational Effectiveness</i> , 2025-Present <i>The Journal of Higher Education</i> , 2023-Present <i>Research in Higher Education</i> , 2023-Present <i>American Journal of Evaluation</i> , 2023-Present <i>Journal of Student Financial Aid</i> , 2020-2022 <i>Perspectives on Urban Education</i> , 2018-2020
Referee (ad-hoc)	<i>The Quarterly Journal of Economics</i> , <i>Journal of Policy Analysis and Management</i> , <i>Education Finance and Policy</i> , <i>Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis</i> , <i>Educational Researcher</i> , <i>Journal of Research on Educational Effectiveness</i> , <i>The Journal of Higher Education*</i> , <i>Research in Higher Education</i> , <i>Review of Educational Research</i> , <i>Review of Higher Education</i> , <i>AERA Open</i> , <i>Nature Communications</i> , <i>Southern Economic Journal</i> , <i>Journal of Student Financial Aid</i> , <i>Educational Policy</i> , <i>Teachers College Record</i> , <i>American Journal of Education</i> , <i>Community College Review</i> , <i>Journal of Critical Scholarship on Higher Education and Student Affairs</i> , <i>Education Policy Analysis Archives</i> , <i>Higher Education Policy</i> , <i>Perspectives on Urban Education</i> * Exemplary Reviewer Award
Program Committee	Association for Education Finance and Policy (Postsecondary Student Access, Admissions, Finances, and Success; Data Systems and Methodological Perspectives), 2021-2026

	<p>Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (Education Sub-Committee), 2023-2025</p> <p>Association for the Study of Higher Education (Graduate Student Policy Seminar, Outreach Team), 2021</p>
Session Chair/ Discussant	<p>American Educational Research Association</p> <p>Association for Education Finance & Policy</p> <p>Association for the Study of Higher Education (Presidential Session)</p> <p>Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness</p>
Proposal Reviewer	<p>American Educational Research Association (Division J)</p> <p>Association for Education Finance and Policy</p> <p>Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management</p> <p>Association for the Study of Higher Education</p> <p>Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness</p>
Member	<p>American Educational Research Association</p> <p>Association for Education Finance and Policy</p> <p>Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management</p> <p>Association for the Study of Higher Education</p> <p>Council on Public Policy in Higher Education</p> <p>Society for Causal Inference (former)</p> <p>Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness</p>
Other	<p>AIR-NCES, Selection Review Panel for NCES Data Institute (2019)</p> <p>AEFP, LGBTQ+ Scholars Community Group Co-Chair (2025-26)</p> <p>AEFP, LGBTQ+ Scholars Mentor (2024, 2025)</p> <p>AERA, Division J Dissertation of the Year Selection Committee (2025-28)</p> <p>Brookings College Access & Completion Expert Panel (2024)</p> <p>The College Board, Policy Fellows Advisory Council (2023-Present)</p> <p>IES Expert Advisory Panel: <i>Estimating the Costs of Compliance and Accreditation to Support Postsecondary Student Success</i> (2025-26)</p> <p>Lumina Foundation, Great Admissions Redesign Research Advisor (2024-25)</p> <p>Lumina Foundation, Reviewer for the Great Admissions Redesign (2023, 2025)</p> <p>SHEEO, Member of the Equity and Adequacy Funding Partners Working Group (2023-Present)</p> <p>SHEEO, Research Co-Lead for the Direct Admissions & Common App Community of Practice (2021-2023)</p> <p>SREE, Review Panel for SREE Summer Fellows (2023, 2024, 2025)</p>
To the Institution	
University of Wisconsin-Madison	<p><i>Board of Regents / Universities of Wisconsin</i></p> <p>Board of Regents Direct Admissions Task Force, 2022-2024</p> <p>Copyright Working Group, 2025</p> <p>Future of Wisconsin Higher Education Work Group, 2025</p> <p>System Shared Governance Council, 2025-Present</p> <p><i>UW-Madison</i></p> <p>Chancellor's Deliberation Dinners [Facilitator], 2024-Present</p> <p>Committee on Undergraduate Recruitment, Admissions, and Financial Aid (2024-2029) [CHAIR: 2025-26]</p> <p>General Education Academic Outcomes and Assessment Committee, 2024-25</p>

PROFS Steering Committee, 2023-Present

School of Education

Academic Programs Committee, 2023-2025

Budget Committee/Budget Approach Workgroup, 2024-25 and Fall 2025

Office of Research and Scholarship Advisory Council, 2025-Present

Research Collaborative Community of Practice Steering Committee, 2025-26

Summer Education Research Program (SERP) Mentor, 2024

WCER Director's Advisory Council, 2023-Present

Educational Policy Studies

Faculty Search Committee in Social Sciences, 2022-23

International Visiting Scholar Advisor/Host, 2024-2026

Teaching Development Committee, 2025-26

Undergraduate Committee, 2022-2024

Other

American Family Funding Initiative Reviewer, 2024 (Data Science Institute)

Partnership Program in Graduate Excellence (The Graduate School)

Research Bazaar Planning Committee, 2024 (Data Science Institute)

University of
Pennsylvania

Awards Committee (Graduate School of Education)

Committee on Race, Equity, & Inclusion (Graduate School of Education)

Subcommittees: LGBTQ+ Issues; Racial Literacy; Student & Faculty
Diversity

Doctoral Student Advisory Board (Graduate School of Education)

Tenure and Promotion Panel (ad-hoc; Graduate School of Education)

University Council (student representative)

Vanderbilt University

Graduate Student Association (Peabody College)

Chair, Academic and Professional Development

University of
Tennessee-Knoxville

Chancellor's Commission for LGBT People

Faculty Senate (Undergraduate Council)

Provost's Student Advisory Board

Quality Enhancement Plan (SACS-COC) Taskforce

Student Disciplinary Board (Chair)

Student Life Council

University Honors Committee

Public Engagement and Evidence Use

*National and State TV/Podcasts/Radio (Selected; * Wisconsin)*

Wisconsin Public Radio [NPR]. (2025, October 23). [Latest UW branch closure comes after years of declining enrollment, budget cuts](#). *

College Knowledge Podcast. (2025, September 26). [163. Financial aid, enrollment & FAFSA with Dr. Taylor Odle](#).

PBS *Here & Now* [Wisconsin]. (2025, September 12). [Taylor Odle on UW's direct admissions program for students](#). *

College for TN. (2025, August 8). [Direct admissions 101: Understanding Tennessee's pilot study](#). Tennessee Higher Education Commission / YouTube.

WTMJ *Spanning the State* [Milwaukee]. (2024, April 29). [UW-Madison professor Taylor Odle on the value of your college degree.](#) *

WORT FM [Madison]. (2024, April 24). [UW-Madison hosts panel on nationwide cuts to higher education funding.](#) *

WORT FM [Madison]. (2024, April 1). [UW-Madison professor Taylor Odle talks FAFSA delays.](#) *

JPAM's *Closer Look* Podcast. (2023, December). [28. The impact of reverse transfer associate degrees.](#)

CBS 58. (2023, December 19). [UW System to launch direct admissions program next school year.](#) *

WUWM 89.7 [NPR]. (2023, December 3). [UW System will send college acceptance letters to students before they even apply.](#) *

Wisconsin Public Radio [NPR]. (2023, November 29). [State universities to start proactively admitting students next year.](#) *

Fox 47. (2023, October 6). [UW System to start direct admissions program next year.](#) *

ABC News 9 / WAOW. (2023, August 23). [Preparing for federal student loan payments.](#) *

Wisconsin Public Radio [NPR]. (2023, July 6). [Inside the GOP plan to guarantee UW-Madison admission to top 5 percent of high school graduates.](#) *

News 3 / WISC TV. (2023, April 26). [More Wisconsin students leaving college before earning degrees.](#) *

WORT FM [Madison]. (2022, October 18). [Applications for Biden's loan forgiveness plan opened today, here's what that means.](#) *

Come to Believe: The Podcast [College Access Network]. (2022, September). [The importance of credit accumulation with Taylor Odle and Davis Jenkins.](#)

National and State Media Coverage, Invited Commentary, Evidence Use (Selected; * Wisconsin)

2025 Nicholson, O. (2025, January 29). [Trump's rescinded executive order causes confusion, panic among schools.](#) *The Badger Herald.* *

Quinn, R., & Knott, K. (2025, February 12). [\\$900 million in Institute of Education Sciences contracts axed.](#) *Inside Higher Ed.*

Douglas-Gabriel, D. (2025, March 6). [More state colleges are admitting students – before they apply.](#) *The Washington Post.*

Douglas-Gabriel, D. (2025, March 8). [How the U of I and other state colleges are admitting students before they apply.](#) *Daily Herald.*

McGroarty, E. (2025, March 12). [Trump order on student loan forgiveness sparks confusion.](#) *The Cap Times.* *

Palmer, K. (2025, March 14). [Layoffs gut federal education research agency.](#) *Inside Higher Ed.*

Huynh, K., & Jacobs, B. (2025, April 23). [What Trump's department of education plan means for Madison schools.](#) *The Cap Times.* *

Martin, S. (2025, July 19). [What the plan to shrink the federal Department of Education means for Wisconsin students.](#) *Wisconsin State Journal.* *

Bennett, S. (2025, July 23). [New program to help TN students in search for colleges.](#) *Yahoo! News.*

Hoover, E. (2025, July 23). [A novel approach: Tennessee will pair direct-admissions offers with financial-aid estimates.](#) *The Chronicle of Higher Education.*

Jones, F. (2025, July 23). [TN launches direct admissions program for high school seniors.](#) *NBC 39 News (The CW).*

Knott, L. (2025, July 23). [TN direct admissions pilot program will simplify path to college and technical training.](#) *Sequatchie Valley Now.*

Local 3 News. (2025, July 23). [TN Higher Education Commission launches new program to help boost in-state college enrollment.](#) *Local 3 News.*

Locker, R. (2025, July 23). [Tennessee Higher Education Commission announces TN Direct Admissions pilot to simplify path to college and technical training.](#) *Tennessee Board of Regents.*

Rose, A. (2025, July 23). [Tennessee pilot program offers automatic college acceptance.](#) *The Greenville Sun.*

- Schwartz, N. (2025, July 23). [Tennessee launches direct admissions pilot with student aid component](#). *Higher Ed Dive*.
- Smith, D. (2025, July 23). [New TN 'direct admissions' pilot to boost college, tech school enrollment](#). *Public News Service*.
- Tamburin, A. (2025, July 23). [Tennessee launches automatic college admission in 230 high schools](#). *Axios Nashville*.
- WGNS News. (2025, July 23). [TN direct admissions program aims to simplify college pathway for class of 2026](#). *WGNS*.
- WKRN Nashville. (2025, July 23). [Tennessee launches 'direct admissions' program](#). *ABC News 2*.
- WREG News. (2023, July 23). [New program to help TN students in search of colleges](#). *News Channel 3 Memphis*.
- Gerasimenko, K. (2025, July 24). [Tennessee becomes first state to combine direct college admissions with financial aid offers for high school seniors](#). *Tennessee Firefly*.
- Nietzel, M. T. (2024, July 24). [Tennessee becomes latest state to offer automatic college admissions](#). *Forbes*.
- Rader, B. (2025, July 24). [Tennessee direct admissions: New program automatically accepts eligible high school seniors into in-state public and private colleges](#). *WGRV News 99.5 FM*.
- Smith, D. (2025, July 24). [New Tennessee 'direct admissions' pilot to boost college enrollment](#). *The Pulse*.
- Times of India. (2025, July 24). [Tennessee launches student first college access program, marking a shift from Trump era approach](#). *TOI Education*.
- Times News. (2025, July 24). [ETSU, Northeast to participate in 'direct admissions' program](#). *Times News*.
- Hough, L. (2025, July 28). [Get into college and get financial aid without applying](#). *Harvard Graduate School of Education*.
- Main Street Nashville. (2025, July 29). [TCATs launch direct admissions program](#). *Main Street Media*.
- Wisconsin Center for Education Research. (2025, July 31). [Improving college access: UW-Madison's Odle helps launch one of the largest education research studies of the century](#). *WCER / UW-Madison*. *
- Cleveland Daily Banner. (2025, August 4). [Tennessee's higher education commission announces 'TN Direct Admissions' pilot](#). *Cleveland Daily Banner*.
- Scarlett, T. (2025, August 4). [Tennessee now offers automatic college admissions. Here's what you should know](#). *The Tennessean*.
- Gandal, M. (2025, August 5). [From gatekeeper to gateway: A new approach to college admissions](#). *Forbes*.
- Spitalniak, L. (2025, August 5). ['You are college ready': Direct admissions comes to Alabama](#). *Higher Ed Dive*.
- Donadel, A. (2025, August 7). [A simple way 3 states are inviting more high schoolers](#). *University Business*.
- Harrington, A. (2025, August 10). [This new program will get TN students into college - without application or fees](#). *The Tennessean*.
- Bridgeman, L. (2025, August 12). [New pilot program in Tennessee aimed at easing transition to post-secondary education](#). *NBC News 5 (WCYB)*.
- Alonso, J. & Knott, K. (2025, August 15). [The Common App at 50](#). *Inside Higher Ed*.
- Freyberg, F. (2025, September 12). [Taylor Odle on UW's direct admission programs for students](#). *PBS Wisconsin*. *
- Yahr, N., & Jacobs, B. (2025, October 1). [UW-Madison is changing its financial aid process. Here's what to know](#). *The Cap Times*. *
- McLean, D. (2025, October 3). [Inside North Carolina's direct admissions program](#). *Higher Ed Dive*.
- Asimov, N. (2025, October 9). [California high school students are now guaranteed CSU admission under new law](#). *San Francisco Chronicle*.

Unglesbee, B. (2025, October 10). [California governor signs Cal State direct admissions program into law](#). *Higher Ed Dive*.

McLean, D. (2025, October 13). [Inside North Carolina's direct admissions program](#). *K-12 Dive*.

Burke, M. (2025, October 23). [You're in and didn't even apply? Why college direct admissions is growing nationally](#). *Ed Source*.

Conquest-Ware, S. (2025, October 23). [Latest UW branch closure comes after years of declining enrollment, budget cuts](#). *Wisconsin Public Radio*. *

Michlig, G. (2025, October 23). [Financially disadvantaged students face further challenges positions as assistance](#). *The Badger Herald*. *

Associated Press. (2025, October 29). [Hawaii offers guaranteed admission to increase the number of high school seniors who attend college](#). *U.S. News & World Report*.

Tagami, M. (2025, October 29). [Hawai'i is making a big push to increase college enrollment. Will it work?](#) *Honolulu Civil Beat*.

Marcus, J. (2025, November 5). [More students are double-majoring out of fear they won't be able to get jobs](#). *The Washington Post*.

Marcus, J. (2025, November 5). [Students worried about getting jobs are adding extra majors](#). *The Hechinger Report*.

Lisher, M. (2025, November 6). [UW students turning away from gender and ethnic studies degrees](#). *Badger Institute*. *

Sharma, S. (2025, November 6). [Why so many US students are taking two degrees at once: How it happens and why it matters for careers](#). *Times of India*.

Schulenburg, N. (2025, November 7). [UW-Platteville Baraboo Sauk County campus set to close next year](#). *The Badger Herald*. *

Burke, M. (2025, November 11). [You got accepted and didn't even apply? Why college 'direct admission' is growing nationally](#). *Los Angeles Times*.

Lopez-Stane, A. (2025, November 13). [UW-Rock County professor talk branch campus closure at documentary screening](#). *The Daily Cardinal*. *

Alonso, J. (2025, November 14). [California State University embraces direct admissions](#). *Inside Higher Ed*.

John, C. (2025, November 14). [You're in: California just sent 17,400 students college acceptance letters – without applications](#). *University Herald*.

Marcus, J. (2025, November 18). [Colleges ease the dreaded admissions process as the supply of applicants declines](#). *The Hechinger Report*.

White, S. (2025, November 22). [6 disruptive trends reshaping college admissions and the future of workforce training](#). *Forbes*.

2024

Torres, R. (2024, January 17). [Fact check: Would Giannis Antetokounmpo's family qualify for financial aid benefits based on affirmative action? One state lawmaker says so](#). *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*. *

Carrns, A. (2024, January 19). [Even if they didn't apply, some students get college admission offers](#). *The New York Times*.

Ford, W. J. (2024, January 30). [House lawmakers prepared to debate direct admissions vs. guaranteed admissions in higher ed](#). *Maryland Matters*.

Kristoff, A. (2024, February 15). [UW-Madison maintains application fee as other UW campuses remove it](#). *The Badger Herald*. *

Schreiner, M. (2024, February 15). [SSTAR lab report shows 'equity-based' funding could increase student success](#). *The Badger Herald*. *

Thibert, A. (2024, February 21). [New law mandates UW System to admit top Wisconsin high school graduates](#). *The Badger Herald*. *

Kristoff, A. (2024, March 19). [Universities across country begin to reinstate standardized test requirement post-COVID](#). *The Badger Herald*. *

Krantz, L. (2024, March 24). [Leading: Is direct admission for you?](#) *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.

Fabel, L. (2024, April 8). [Community college tackle another challenge: Students recovering from past substance use](#). *Hechinger Report*.

Shah, S. (2024, April 11). [A botched FAFSA rollout leaves aspiring college students worried about the future](#). *TIME*.

Povich, E. S. (2024, April 24). [More public colleges admit high schoolers even before they've applied](#). *Stateline*.

Lee, S. (2024, April 25). [PROFS panel calls for de-politicization of higher education at public forum](#). *The Badger Herald*. *

D'Andrea, R. (2024, April 25). [Amid falling public confidence, forum speakers defend value of a college degree](#). *Wisconsin Public Radio*. *

Povich, E. S. (2024, April 30). [More public colleges admit high schoolers even before they've applied](#). *Wisconsin Examiner*. *

Ratnesar, R. (2024, May 3). [Applying to college shouldn't be so complicated](#). *Bloomberg*.

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Other Engagement, Evidence Use, and Impact (Selected)

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Professional Experience

Applied Research and Data Science Fellow, National Student Clearinghouse	2021-22
Policy Research Fellow, Center for the Analysis of Postsecondary Readiness, MDRC	2021
Assistant Director of Fiscal Policy and Research, Tennessee Higher Education Commission	2016-18
Policy, Planning, and Research Analyst, Tennessee Higher Education Commission	2015-16
Graduate Intern for Higher Education and Public Policy, The College Board	2015
Graduate Research Assistant, Peabody Research Institute, Vanderbilt University	2014-15
Education Policy Intern, U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions	2013

Other

IES Methods Training in Economic Evaluation (Cost-Effectiveness and Benefit-Cost Analysis), 2022

IES College Completion Network Convening (Invited Attendee), 2022

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation—Postsecondary Value Commission (RA to L. Perna), 2019

U.S. ED, NCES/ AIR Data Institute, 2017 (Selection Review Panel 2018, 2019)

Visiting Student in the Humanities, Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge, UK, 2012

What Works Clearinghouse (WWC), Group Design Standards Certification, 2021

R, Stata, Python, SQL, Qualtrics, LaTeX

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