



## Research Associates

February 04, 2021

The Economic Research Department seeks talented individuals with strong backgrounds in economics, statistics, and mathematics for Research Associate (RA) positions.

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The Economic Research Department seeks talented individuals with strong backgrounds in economics, statistics, and mathematics for Research Associate (RA) positions. These are excellent positions for someone who is passionate about research and considering a Ph.D. in economics. As an RA, you can develop technical skills, such as programming and working in a High-Performance Computing (HPC) environment. In addition, you are exposed to a broad range of topics, such as monetary policy, labor economics, and international trade. At the Kansas City Fed, RAs are matched to economists based on interest and skill sets, which provides opportunities for RAs to work closely with Ph.D. economists and get invaluable research experience. Most RAs stay with the department for two to three years, at which point many return to graduate school or pursue other opportunities.

Interested in joining the Kansas City Fed as an RA?

### Current Openings

- There are no research associate or research intern openings at this time.

### Meet Our Current Research Associates

I joined the KC Fed after graduating from the University of Kansas with a BS in Economics and minors in Math and Philosophy. Here I support [Stefan Jacewitz](#) and [Rajdeep Sengupta](#) with their work in the banking and financial markets division. Working at the Bank has familiarized me with the process of conducting research in a way that no other opportunity could, from the down-and-dirty data scrubbing to the glamorous and intricate theoretical modelling. The Bank's resident experts and frequent guest speakers offer a wealth of expertise and wisdom that create a formative environment for aspiring professionals in the field of economics.

I joined the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City after completing my BA at Swarthmore College in economics and minors in classical studies and statistics. At the bank, I have had the privilege of working with and learning from senior economists **Jordan Rappaport** in his work in urban economics and **Nida Çakır Melek** in her work in energy economics. My work for both economists has made me a more confident researcher while allowing me to apply the economic theory I learned in college. **Being a research associate gives me the opportunity to continue to grow my economic intuition and work on policy relevant projects.** The Federal Reserve provides a collaborative environment between RAs and economists while introducing the RAs to new and diverse research through weekly seminars.

I joined the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City after graduating from Northeastern University with a BS in economics and political science and a minor in mathematics. At the Kansas City Fed, I have the honor of assisting **Huixin Bi** and **Karlye Stedman** in their research and policy work, focusing on fiscal policy, international dimensions of monetary policy, and unconventional monetary policies. My projects include evaluating fiscal relief during the COVID-19 pandemic and assessing the impact of unconventional monetary policies. I also serve as a liaison to the Bank's Employee Diversity Committee for the Economic Research department. **Through my roles at the Bank, I am developing research skills and interests in a collaborative and high-impact environment that prepare me to contribute to the advancement of the economics profession.**

I joined the economic research group at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City in 2022 after studying economics at Carleton College and finance at the University of Minnesota's Carlson School. I currently assist **Padma Sharma** and **Blake Marsh** as they research the macroeconomic implications of developments in financial markets. To better scrutinize future financial stability, I am interested in how and why financial intermediaries and their ancillary markets have made decisions under different circumstances. **This wonderful opportunity has improved the breadth and depth of my programming and econometric knowledge through frequent interaction with field experts.** Most notably, I have been empowered by the genuine consideration and care that Blake and Padma have devoted towards my graduate school preparation.

I joined the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City in 2022 after graduating from the University of Chicago with BA degrees in economics and sociology. Here, I assist Andrew Glover and José Mustre-del-Río with their research and policy work in labor economics. This role has provided me opportunities to engage with exciting and meaningful research questions alongside the Bank's talented team of economists and researchers. The vast exposure to economics I've received from the Bank's visiting scholars and resident economists has fueled my interest in pursuing a higher degree in the field, and I feel grateful to experience this at an institution devoted to public service.

After I graduated from Carleton College with a BA in mathematics and economics, I was excited to join the research team at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. I am currently working with **José Mustre-del-Río** and **Andy Glover** on various research projects. In addition to helping these economists with their research, I prepare policy materials, draft press releases for the Kansas City Fed's LMCI, and give presentations on the economy and the Federal Reserve System to school and community groups. **I really appreciate the variety of work in this job and the flexibility given to RAs to explore our interests.**

I started working as a research associate at the Kansas City Fed after graduating from the University of Texas at Austin with an MA in economics. Here I support **Johannes Matschke** and **Amaze Lusompa** in their research in financial regulatory policy and time series econometrics, respectively. **I enjoy being able to apply programming skills to work on exciting and important economic research projects.** This role gives you the ability to better understand and develop your interests.

I joined the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City after receiving my BA in economics and mathematics and MA in economics from Boston University. Since joining the Kansas City Fed, I have had the honor to work with **Didem Tüzemen** on her research in labor markets, **Alison Felix** on her research and policy work in regional economics, and **Elior Cohen** on his research in public economics. **This opportunity has allowed me to work with new datasets and improve my programming skills.** I have really appreciated the exposure to a wide variety of research topics through the seminars and the chance to develop research skills in a supportive and collaborative environment.

I joined the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City after receiving my BS degree in mathematics from the University of Kansas. Since joining the Kansas City Fed, I have had the honor to work with **Jason Brown** and **Francisco Scott** in their research. Currently, I am working on projects looking at the changes in trends in migration among urban areas in the United States as well as projects on transitions occurring in the energy sector. **Being an RA provides a great opportunity to develop research skills and interests both on the job and through the benefit of tuition reimbursement.** The position is great for those who want to explore their research interests as there are opportunities to be involved in a variety of projects.

I joined the Kansas City Fed's research team in July of 2022 after completing a BA in Economics and a minor in Mathematics at Occidental College in Los Angeles. At the Fed I have the pleasure of working with **Brent Bundick**, **Lee Smith** and **Taeyoung Doh** on both research and policy work regarding Macroeconomics. Working for the bank I've had the opportunity to continue to tune the research skills that I began to develop as an undergraduate and develop technical skills in a host of coding languages and with an array of data repositories. Further the economists here place an emphasis on my education and do all they can to incorporate me as an asset and partner in their widely varied research projects. This job has bolstered my interest in graduate study with a cohort of likeminded individuals and dedicated mentors, allowing me to feel well positioned on the pathway towards a Phd.

I joined the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City in July 2022 after graduating from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where I completed a B.S. in Economics and Statistics in May 2021. Additionally, I worked as a Risk Analyst in the Independent Testing and Validation department at Wells Fargo in Charlotte from June 2021- June 2022. Currently, I am working with **Didem Tuzemen**, **Jose Mustre-del-Rio** and **Andrew Glover** with their research and policy work in labor economics. Being a research associate at the Fed has enabled me to engage with economic research and policy relevant to my interests, collaborate with accomplished economists and develop the essential data analysis skills to conduct cogent research. Moreover, the collaborative relationship I maintain with my economists has only further allowed me to become a better researcher and programmer, while also informing me on how to best pursue graduate studies.

I joined the Kansas City Fed after graduating from Trinity University with BA degrees in economics, mathematics, and art history and a minor in medieval and renaissance studies. At the bank, I support **Jun Nie** and **Cooper Howes** with their research and policy work regarding international macroeconomics, differences in consumption patterns, and financial frictions. Working on these projects provides me with the chance to work with important datasets and assist in relevant research. Additionally, through my collaborations with the economists I am able to strengthen my own knowledge and research capabilities, providing me with valuable skills that will prepare me for future plans. **Furthermore, even during a remote work environment, the opportunity to attend presentations by the research staff has proven to be a great resource for further learning and exposure to economic ideas that allow me to explore and develop my own interests.**

## Co-Authored Publications

*Research Associates' names are in bold.*

### Economic Review articles

- Marsh, W. Blake, and **Brendan Laliberte**. 2023. "[The Implications of Unrealized Losses for Banks.](#)" Vol. 108, no. 2.
- Doh, Taeyoung and **Luca Van der Meer**. 2023. "[The Employment Effect of an Increase in the National Minimum Wage: Review of International Evidence.](#)" Vol. 108, no. 2.
- Brown, Jason, and **Colton Tousey**. 2023. "[The Shifting Expectations for Work from Home.](#)" Vol. 108, no. 2.
- Dilts Stedman, Karlye, and **Chaitri Gulati**. 2023. "[FOMC Communication Spillovers: Is There a “Call-Out” Effect?](#)" Vol. 108, no. 1
- Glover, Andrew, José Mustre-del-Río, and **Alice von Ende-Becker**. 2023. "[How Much Have Record Corporate Profits Contributed to Recent Inflation?](#)" Vol. 108, no. 1.
- Glover, Andrew, José Mustre-del-Río, and **Emily Pollard**. 2022. "[Lifetime Earnings Differences across Black and White Individuals: Years Worked Matter.](#)" Vol. 108, no. 1.
- Smith, A. Lee, **Chaitri Gulati**. 2022. "[The Evolving Role of the Fed’s Balance Sheet: Effects and Challenges.](#)" Vol. 107, no. 4.
- Çakır Melek, Nida, **Francis M. Dillon**, and A. Lee Smith. 2022. "[Can Higher Gasoline Prices Set Off an Inflationary Spiral?](#)" Vol. 107, no. 4.
- Howes, Cooper, **Alice von Ende Becker**. 2022. "[Monetary Policy and Intangible Investment.](#)" Vol. 107, no. 2.
- Brown, Jason, **Colton Tousey**. 2021. "[How the Pandemic Influenced Trends in Domestic Migration across U.S. Urban Areas.](#)" Fourth Quarter 2021.
- Nie, Jun, **Alice von Ende-Becker**, and Shu-Kuei X. Yang. 2021. "[How Did the 2018–19 U.S. Tariff Hikes Influence Household Spending?](#)" Fourth Quarter 2021.

- Bi, Huixin, and **Chaitri Gulati**. 2021. “[Fiscal Relief during the COVID-19 Pandemic.](#)” Third Quarter 2021.
- Brown, Jason, and **Colton Tousey**. 2020. “[Population Turnover and the Growth of Urban Areas.](#)” First Quarter 2020.
- Mustre-del-Río, José, and **Emily Pollard**. 2019. “[What Explains Lifetime Earnings Differences Across Individuals?](#)” First Quarter 2019.
- Bundick, Brent, and **Emily Pollard**. 2019. “[The Rise and Fall of College Tuition Inflation.](#)” First Quarter 2019.

### Research Working Papers

- Brown, Jason P., Nida Çakır Melek, Johannes Matschke, and **Sai A. Sattiraju**. 2023. “[The Missing Tail Risk in Option Prices.](#)” RWP 23-02
- Ilin, Elias, **Samantha Shampine**, and Ellie Terry. 2021 “[Does Access to Free Pre-Kindergarten Increase Maternal Labor Supply?](#)” RWP 21-11.
- Brown, Jason, and **Colton Tousey**. 2020. “[Death of Coal and Breath of Life: The Effect of Power Plant Closure on Local Air Quality.](#)” RWP 20-15.
- Brown, Jason, and **Colton Tousey**. 2019. “[Rising Market Concentration and the Decline of Food Price Shock Pass-Through to Core Inflation.](#)” RWP 19-02.

### Economic Bulletins

- Glover, Andrew, José Mustre-del-Río and **Jalen Nichols**. 2023. “[Corporate Profits Contributed a Lot to Inflation in 2021 but Little in 2022— A Pattern Seen in Past Economic Recoveries](#)”
- Lusompa, Amaze and **Sai A. Sattiraju**. 2023. “[Will High Underlying Inflation Persist?](#)”
- Dilts Stedman, Karlye, and **Emily Pollard**. 2023. “[Why Has Monetary Policy Tightening Not Cooled the Labor Market Enough to Quell Inflation?](#)”
- Brown, Jason, and **Colton Tousey**. 2023. “[When the Music Stops: Slowing Wage Growth May Lead to More Delinquent Debt.](#)”
- Bundick, Brent, A. Lee Smith, and **Luca Van der Meer**. 2023. “[A Tight Labor Market Could Keep Rent Inflation Elevated.](#)”
- Çakır Melek, Nida, **Francis M. Dillon**, and A. Lee Smith. 2023. “[Gasoline Prices Unlikely to Bring Down Inflation in 2023.](#)”
- Mustre-del-Río, José, and **Emily Pollard**. 2023. “[The KC Fed LMCi Momentum Indicator Suggests Monetary Policy Is Beginning to Weigh on Labor Markets.](#)”
- Çakır Melek, Nida, and **Emily Pollard**. 2022. “[Negative Sentiment toward Spending and Declining Real Incomes May Meaningfully Lower Consumption.](#)”
- Felix, Alison, and **Samantha Shampine**. 2022. “[Marijuana Industry Has Boosted Economic Activity in the Tenth Federal Reserve District.](#)”

- Matschke, Johannes, and **Sai A. Sattiraju**. 2022. "[Price Pressures for U.S. Exporters and a Strong Dollar Have Increased Inflation in Foreign Countries.](#)"
- Matschke, Johannes, and **Sai A. Sattiraju**. 2022. "[Recent Appreciation in the U.S. Dollar Unlikely to Have Large Effect on Domestic Inflation.](#)"
- Bi, Huixin, **Chaitri Gulati**, and José Mustre-del-Río. 2022. "[A Slowdown in Job Vacancies Is Likely to Coincide with Higher Unemployment and Slower Wage Growth.](#)"
- Cohen, Elior, and **Samantha Shampine**. 2022. "[Immigration Shortfall May Be a Headwind for Labor Supply.](#)"
- Matschke, Johannes, and **Sai A. Sattiraju**. 2021. "[Labor Markets Are Tight, but Conditions Vary across States.](#)"
- Glover, Andrew, José Mustre-del-Río, and **Emily Pollard**. 2021. "[KC Fed LMCI Suggests that Recent Inflation Is Not Due to the Tight Labor Market.](#)"
- Glover, Andrew, José Mustre-del-Río, and **Emily Pollard**. 2021. "[KC Fed LMCI Implies the Labor Market Is Closer to a Full Recovery than the Unemployment Rate Alone Suggests.](#)"
- Dilts Stedman, Karlye, and **Chaitri Gulati**. 2021. "[When Normalizing Monetary Policy, the Order of Operations Matters.](#)" October 2021.
- Felix, Alison, and **Samantha Shampine**. 2021. "[Consumer Spending Declines, Shifts in Response to the Pandemic.](#)"
- Bi, Huixin, **Jacob Dice**, **Chaitri Gulati**, and W. Blake Marsh. 2020. "[Understanding the Recent Rise in Municipal Bond Yields.](#)"
- Glover, Andrew, and **Emily Pollard**. 2020. "[Inflation Expectations Limit the Power of Negative Interest Rates.](#)"
- Mustre-del-Río, José, and **Emily Pollard**. 2019. "[As Manufacturing Weakens, Consumers Pull Back.](#)"
- Brown, Jason, David Rodziewicz, and **Colton Tousey**. 2019. "[Drilling Productivity in the United States: What Lies Beneath.](#)"
- Brown, Jason, and **Colton Tousey**. 2018. "[Auto Loan Delinquency Rates Are Rising, but Mostly among Subprime Borrowers.](#)"
- Mustre-del-Río, José, and **Emily Pollard**. 2018. "[Nominal Wage Rigidities and the Future Path of Wage Growth.](#)"
- Bundick, Brent, Trenton Herriford, **Emily Pollard**, and Andrew Lee Smith. 2017. "[Does the Recent Decline in Household Longer-Term Inflation Expectations Signal a Loss of Confidence in the FOMC?](#)"

## Technical Briefings

- **Pollard, Emily**. 2019. "[A New Approach to Industry and Occupation Recoding in the CPS.](#)" TB 19-02.
- **Tousey, Colton**. 2019. "[Federal Reserve District County Shapefiles.](#)" TB 19-01.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What are some key responsibilities for an RA?

- Assisting Ph.D. economists on academic research projects and monetary policy briefings.
- Gathering and analyzing data, programming economic models, and preparing charts for presentations on economic and financial conditions.
- More experienced RAs participate in econometric and theoretical research, write for Bank publications and deliver speeches to civic and educational groups.

### What qualifications are you looking for in an RA?

- Bachelor's or master's degree in economics or a closely related field, such as statistics, computer science, or mathematics.
- Coursework or experience in economics required.
- Coursework or experience in econometrics, mathematics and statistics highly desirable.
- Proficiency in programming languages and statistical software packages, such as Stata, Matlab, R or Python highly desirable.
- Strong academic record.
- Experience with research and data analysis is highly desirable.

### What opportunities are there for career development and continued learning?

- Training in software, such as Stata, R, Matlab, Python and SQL
- Seminars by Kansas City Fed and visiting economists
- Working closely with Ph.D. economists
- Tuition reimbursement

### How long do RAs usually stay at the Kansas City Fed?

The majority of RAs stay for two to three years as they find that amount of time sufficient to acquire the skills and knowledge to move on to Ph.D. programs or other opportunities. There are some opportunities for RAs to stay longer and continue to support important policy and research work in the Department or move on to other areas of the Kansas City Fed.

### What are typical career paths pursued by RAs?

#### Recent graduate school placements:



*Ph.D. programs in economics:* Boston College, New York University, Stanford University, University of Michigan, University of Minnesota, University of Chicago, University of Wisconsin, Columbia University

*Law school:* Harvard University, University of Michigan, University of Pennsylvania

*Master's in business administration:* Columbia University, University of Chicago, Carnegie Mellon University

**Do I need to send an official transcript?**

Unofficial transcripts are fine for the initial application but we may ask for an official transcript at some point in the process.

**Are there opportunities for undergraduates?**

Interested undergraduates can apply for summer internships to gain valuable research experience, and develop analytical and technical skills.

**Are non-U.S. citizens eligible to apply?**

Generally, non-U.S. citizens are eligible to apply if they are able to obtain the legal status to work in the U.S. for at least two years without sponsorship from the Bank. F-1 visa holders with STEM OPT extension are eligible to apply. Some RA positions may require U.S. citizenship, which will be clearly indicated on the job notice.

**Whom can I contact for more information?**

If there are additional questions about the RA position, please contact [rarecruiter@kc.frb.org](mailto:rarecruiter@kc.frb.org).

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## Media



**Chris Acker**

[Contact](#)

Research Associate I

Banking and Financial Markets Research

Research Interests: Public Economics,  
Computational Economics, Economics of Law



**Frankie Dillon**

[Contact](#)

Research Associate II

Macroeconomics and Monetary Policy

Research Interests: Macroeconomics, International  
Economics, and Public Policy



**Chaitri Gulati**

[Contact](#)

Assistant Economist

Macroeconomics and Monetary Policy

Research Interests: Macroeconomics, Monetary Policy, Public Economics, and International Finance



**Brendan Laliberte**

[Contact](#)

Research Associate I

Banking and Financial Markets Research

Research Interests: Financial Economics, Monetary Policy, and Econometrics



**Jalen Nichols**

[Contact](#)

Research Associate I

Macroeconomics and Monetary Policy

Research Interests: Public Economics, Labor Economics, and Macroeconomics



**Emily Pollard**

[Contact](#)

Assistant Economist

Macroeconomics and Monetary Policy

Research Interests: Labor Economics, Inflation, and Monetary Policy



**Sai A. Sattiraju**

[Contact](#)

Research Associate II

Macroeconomics and Monetary Policy

Research Interests: Econometrics and Household Finance



**Samantha Shampine**

[Contact](#)

Research Associate II

Macroeconomics and Monetary Policy

Research Interests: Labor Economics and Public Economics



**Colton Tousey**

[Contact](#)

Assistant Economist

Regional and Community Research

Research Interests: Microeconomics, Regional  
Economics, and Natural Resource Economics



**Luca Van der Meer**

[Contact](#)

Research Associate I

Macroeconomics and Monetary Policy

Research Interests: Inflationary Uncertainty and  
Expectations



**Deepak Venkatasubramanian**

[Contact](#)

Research Associate I

Macroeconomics and Monetary Policy

Research Interests: Labor Economics, Public Policy  
and Macroeconomics



**Alice von Ende-Becker**

[Contact](#)

Research Associate II

Macroeconomics and Monetary Policy

Research Interests: Monetary Policy, Labor  
Economics, and Public Policy

