

Brianna Felegi

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Current Employment

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Fall 2023 to Present
Assistant Professor, Department of Economics
Affiliate, Center for Future Workplaces and Practices
Affiliate, Kellogg Center for Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Professional Appointments

Global Labor Organization (GLO) Fall 2025 to Present
Research Fellow

University of Notre Dame Fall 2023 to Present
Affiliate, Center for Research on Educational Opportunity

W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research Summer 2025
Summer Economics Fellow

Education

Ph.D. Economics, University of Notre Dame May 2023
Dissertation Title – “Essays on the Economics of Education”
Committee – Daniel Hungerman, Chloe Gibbs, Kasey Buckles, and William Evans

M.A. Economics, University of Notre Dame, June 2019

B.A. Economics, University of Florida, May 2018
Minor - Actuarial Science
Honors - *Summa Cum Laude*

Publications

1. Felegi, Brianna. 2025. "Examining Key Impacts of the Test-Optional Movement for Early Adopters." *AEA Papers and Proceedings* 115: 682–88. DOI: [10.1257/pandp.20251057](https://doi.org/10.1257/pandp.20251057)
2. Barrera, Sergio, Brianna Felegi, and Sarina Heron. 2025. "Labor Market Shocks and Immigration Enforcement." *AEA Papers and Proceedings* 115: 466–70. DOI: [10.1257/pandp.20251120](https://doi.org/10.1257/pandp.20251120)

Working Papers (sorted alphabetically)

1. “Can Light-Touch Interventions in High School Impact Education Outcomes?” (Under Review)
2. “Economic Insecurity and Demand for Immigration Enforcement” with Sergio Barrera and Joaquín Rubalcaba (Under Review)
3. “From the Ground Up: Labor Demand and Intergenerational Mobility in the US” with Paul Shaloka
4. “Supply-Side Responses in School Choice” with Chandon Adger (R&R at *Journal of Public Economics*)
5. “The Impacts of Removing College Entrance Exams: Evidence from the Test-Optional Movement” (conditionally accepted at *Southern Economic Journal*)

Research in Progress (sorted alphabetically)

1. “Evaluating the Impact of Voucher Programs on Students in Participating Private Schools: A Mixed Methodology Approach” with Joseph Waddington
2. “The Free Tuition Laws and Their Impact on Educational Attainment in the 20th Century” with Christopher Monjaras
3. “The Non-Labor Impacts of GED Receipt” with Antionette Strotter
4. “The War on Poverty and Higher Education Access: Educational Attainment and Intergenerational Effects of Upward Bound” with Chloe Gibbs and Esra Kose
5. “Understanding the Impacts of First Semester Math Placement on Post Secondary Outcomes” with Sergio Barrera and Susan Sajadi

Research Experience

Research Assistant, University of Notre Dame, Department of Economics
Chloe Gibbs, Fall 2021 through Summer 2022
Kasey Buckles, Spring 2020 through Summer 2021

Conferences and Presentations

- 2026 Association of Education Finance and Policy Annual Conference (scheduled), University of Rochester (scheduled)
- 2025 Allied Social Science Association Annual Meeting, Association of Education Finance and Policy Annual Conference, Program on Education Policy and Governance, CeMENT Mentoring Workshop for Junior Faculty, MidSouth Education Policy Workshop, Midwest Economics of Education Conference, APPAM Fall Research Conference, Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting, Global Labor Organization Conference – Job Market Sessions (session chair, virtual)

- 2024 Association of Education Finance and Policy Annual Conference, 2024 Society of Government Economists Annual Conference, APPAM Fall Research Conference, Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting
- 2023 Texas Christian University, Xavier University, Bates College, Montana State University Applied Economics Summer Conference, APPAM Fall Research Conference (presenter x 2, discussant), Commonwealth Finance Workshop (discussant)
- 2022 Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Southern Economics Association Annual Meeting, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Teaching Experience

Instructor, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Department of Economics
 Applied Econometrics, Fall 2025
 Graduate Research and Writing Seminar, Fall 2025
 Labor Economics, Fall 2024
 Analysis of Economic Data, Fall 2023

Instructor, University of Notre Dame, Department of Economics
 Statistics for Economics Tutorial, Fall 2022
 Principles of Microeconomics, Summer 2022

Teaching Assistant, University of Notre Dame, Department of Economics
 Graduate Microtheory I, Michèle Müller-Itten, Fall 2019
 Principles of Microeconomics, Daniel Hungerman, Spring 2019
 Principles of Microeconomics, Ethan Lieber, Fall 2018

Academic Student Services, University of Notre Dame, Tutor
 Principles of Microeconomics, Fall 2018 through Fall 2021

Advising (* denotes student outside of current affiliation)

Amaryllis Adey*, Committee Member (2025)

Initial Placement: Postdoctoral Researcher, Department of Etymology, Virginia Tech

Jonathan Gendron, Committee Member (expected completion 2026)

Initial Placement: Assistant Professor, Department of Business Analytics, Xavier University

Reza Tavakoli Jaghargh, Co-Adviser (expected completion 2027)

Faezah Najafi, Committee Member (expected completion 2027)

Yuecheng Gong, Committee Member (expected completion 2027)

Brett Prochko, Committee Member (expected completion 2028)

Maryam Rezaei Aderiani, Committee Member (expected completion 2028)

Awards and Fellowships

PPE Research Fellowship, Virginia Tech, Fall 2025 to Summer 2026

Outstanding Faculty in Undergraduate Courses, Virginia Tech, Spring 2024

New Faculty Mentoring Grant, Virginia Tech, Spring 2024

Burns Fellow, Program for Interdisciplinary Educational Research, Spring 2020 to Spring 2023

Dean's Fellow, University of Notre Dame, Fall 2018 to Spring 2023

Service

Referee (sorted alphabetically): *Applied Economics Letters*, *China Economic Review*, *Economics of Education Review*, *Journal of Human Capital*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Journal of Population Economics*, *Research in Higher Education*

Professional Memberships:

American Economic Association

Association for Education Finance and Policy

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management

Southern Economic Association

Department Service Committees, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Graduate Committee, Fall 2025

Seminar Coordinator, Fall 2025, Fall 2024

Visibility Committee, Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

Enrollment Committee, Fall 2023

Faculty Advisor, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Women in Economics Club, Spring 2024 to Present

Econ Games Team, Spring 2025 to Present

Graduate Student Committee, University of Notre Dame

Co-Chair, Fall 2021 to Spring 2022