Economic Research at the Federal Reserve

The primary mission of the Research Division is to provide high-quality, timely advice to the Bank’s president about monetary policy and banking issues. Producing and communicating important economic research are also crucial components of the Division’s responsibilities. Working with the Division’s economists, research analysts play an integral role in achieving these Division objectives.

What are the day-to-day activities?

• Perform statistical, econometric, computational and analytical research that economists can use for publication in academic journals.
• Utilize statistical packages such as Eviews, Stata, SAS, R, Matlab, Fortan, Python, and C++.
• Collect, organize, and interpret economic and financial data.
• Review academic journals, market sources, and government reports.
• Write memoranda or assist economists in developing memoranda and presentations on current economic and financial conditions and policy issues.
• Attend to additional assignments, including gathering and organizing survey data and anecdotal information and summarize economic data for the Beige Book.

How to Apply

Recruiting for new research associates typically begins in early October for starting positions in the spring/summer of the following year.

Interested applicants must email all of the following documents to ra.recruiting@stls.frb.org

• Cover letter
• Resume
• Copy of unofficial transcripts from all colleges and universities attended
• Completed applicant summary file http://research.stlouisfed.org/jobopps/RA_Applicant_Summary_File.docx

Applications will not be considered without all of these materials.

For questions or concerns, contact ra.recruiting@stls.frb.org.
Research Associates’ contributions have resulted in coauthored articles

“Our paper analyzes how fiscal stimulus spending in one county positively affects labor market outcomes in neighboring counties. Such spillovers are important because they imply that fiscal policy can be an effective tool for mitigating the negative effects of a recession. Reading academic papers and applying them to this policy-relevant question was fascinating and has made me all the more eager to do graduate work in economics.”


Qualifications

• A GPA of 3.5 or above
• Bachelor’s degree in economics
• Strong background in mathematics and statistics, courses in:
  - Econometrics
  - Linear algebra
  - Differential equations
  - At least two semesters of calculus
• Previous economic research experience, such as undergraduate research assistant, research-related internship, Fed-challenge, or independent research project.

Research Associates frequently go on to top graduate programs

• Ph.D programs in economics, finance or statistics
  UC Berkeley; Carnegie Mellon; University of Chicago; Georgetown University; University of Pennsylvania; Princeton University; Washington University in St. Louis; Yale University
• Master’s programs in public policy
  Harvard; Indiana University; London School of Economics; Minnesota
• Master’s programs in business administration or finance
  Carnegie Mellon; Washington University in St. Louis
• Law programs
  George Washington; Harvard; Texas; Tulane

About the Research Division

The Research Division of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis is responsible for advising the Bank president on matters of economic policy. The Division monitors the economic and financial literature and produces research in the areas of money and banking, macroeconomics, and international and regional economics. Other teams in the Research Division work directly in the areas of economic data, education, information services, and publications.

To learn more about the research division visit research.stlouisfed.org

Bank Publications

- Review
- The Regional Economist
- Economic Synopses
- Working Paper Series
- On the Economy and FRED Blogs

RES15-9101 08-15