

Taylor K. Odle

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Academic Appointments

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

17. Odle, T. K., Duke, S.+, & Dunens, E. (Accepted). High performing Pell institutions: Identifying and exploring colleges and universities with high low-income student success. *AERA Open*.
16. Odle, T. K.*, & Russell, L.* (Online Early). The role of education-industry match in college earnings premia. *Education Finance and Policy*, 1-55. doi: [10.1162/EDFP.a.462](https://doi.org/10.1162/EDFP.a.462).

15. Duke, S.+, & Odle, T. K. (2026). Does free college “work” for adult learners? Enrollment impacts of Michigan Reconnect. *Educational Researcher*, 55(4), 244-254. doi: [10.3102/0013189X251393204](https://doi.org/10.3102/0013189X251393204).
14. Odle, T. K., & Otero, S.+ (2026). Institutional responses to tuition controls: Evidence from Tennessee’s tuition ranges. *The Review of Higher Education*, 49(4), 461-497. doi: [10.1353/rhe.2026.a992277](https://doi.org/10.1353/rhe.2026.a992277).
13. Odle, T. K., Wright-Kim, J., & Castrejón, A.+ (2026). Whose last dollar? Estimating the effects of promise programs on financial aid awards. *The Journal of Higher Education*, 97(2), 275-304. doi: [10.1080/00221546.2025.2455332](https://doi.org/10.1080/00221546.2025.2455332).
12. 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).
11. 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).
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. Odle, T. K. Comparative cost analyses of community college student success initiatives ([EdWorkingPaper: 25-1268](#); [Policy and Practice Summary](#)). Revisions resubmitted to *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*.
4. Odle, T. K. The power of ‘free’ college: Reducing racial and socioeconomic inequalities in college expectations ([EdWorkingPaper: 22-565](#)). Revisions invited at *Economics of Education Review*.
3. Odle, T. K., & Delgado, P. L. No pay? No way! Teacher compensation reforms and the market for graduate degrees ([EdWorkingPaper: 25-1364](#)). Revisions requested at *Educational Researcher*.
2. Odle, T. K., & McMullen, I. Scaling high-touch college advising: Causal evidence and program design insights from Tennessee ([EdWorkingPaper: 25-1371](#); [Policy and Practice Summary](#)). Revisions invited at *Economics of Education Review*.
1. Odle, T. K., & Nathenson, R. Geographic and community influences on college savings: Evidence from the universe of Pennsylvania 529 account holders ([EdWorkingPaper: 26-1437](#)). Revisions requested at *Educational Researcher*.

Under Review

3. Castrejón A., & Odle, T. K. Did institutions alter financial aid during the test-optional movement: Early quasi-experimental evidence.
2. Fu, N., Luo, S., Miller, T., & Odle, T. K. Supporting females in STEM: Evidence on student-instructor gender matching at 4-year research universities in Texas ([EdWorkingPaper: 26-1464](#)).
1. Luo, S., Fu, N., Miller, T., & Odle, T. K. Student and faculty same-race matching at research universities ([EdWorkingPaper: 26-1465](#)).

Working Papers

2. Castrejón, A., & Odle, T. K. Impacts of direct admissions on racial and socioeconomic diversity.
1. Odle, T. K. “Non-submitters:” Evidence on students who start but don’t complete a college application ([EdWorkingPaper: 23-819](#)).

Research in Progress

9. Odle, T. K. Can targeted college and career information improve college-going outcomes? Experimental evidence from the College Advising Corp.
8. Odle, T. K. Difference-in-differences with endogenous treatment: Issues and solutions in education policy settings.
7. Odle, T. K. Simplifying enrollment in practice: Studying the integration of direct admissions programs and financial aid.
6. Odle, T. K. Understanding ROI: The cost-effectiveness of driving student success.
5. Odle, T. K., & Castrejón, A. Advancing college-going: Insights from Direct Admissions Minnesota.
4. 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?

3. 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.
2. Odle, T. K., Drohojowska, S.*, Mayer, A.*, Serna-Wallender, E.*, & Weiss, M.* Addressing the advising “cliff:” Impacts of continuity advising on summer melt and early college persistence.
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

19. McMullen, I.+, & Odle, T. K. (2026). Why expert advising matters for college access. Brown Center on Education Policy, Brookings Institution.
18. Burmicky, J., Odle, T. K., Wright-Kim, J., McFadden, D., & Carter, E. (2025). A PLUS or a minus: A qualitative exploration of students, parents, and financial aid administrators across institutions. The Debt Plu\$ Project, Wisconsin Center for Education 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

2. Delaney, J. A., & Odle, T. K. A “Fast Pass” to college access: An evaluation of Hawaii’s direct admissions system.
1. Odle, T. K., & Delaney, J. A. Experimental evidence on “direct admissions” from four states: Impacts on college application and enrollment ([EdWorkingPaper: 23-834](#)).

Funding

Competitive Grants and Fellowships

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| \$85,184 | Lumina Foundation. 2026. <i>State policy evaluation lab (Phase I: Planning)</i> . Principal Investigator. |
| \$150,000 | Arnold Ventures. 2025. <i>Understanding ROI: Cost-effectiveness of driving student success</i> . Principal Investigator. |
| \$715,000 | Lumina Foundation. 2025. <i>Simplifying enrollment in practice: Studying the integration of direct admissions programs and financial aid (Phase II: Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation)</i> . Principal Investigator, with R. Weissbourd (Co-PI). |

Related awards:

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| ➤ \$450,000. | Bloomberg Philanthropies. 2025. <i>Direct admissions in Tennessee</i> . (Award made directly to Tennessee Higher Education Commission for project activities.) |
| ➤ \$300,000. | Kresge Foundation. 2025. <i>Direct admissions in Tennessee</i> . (Award made directly to Tennessee Higher Education Commission for project activities.) |
| \$350,000 | Lumina Foundation. 2024. <i>Simplifying enrollment in practice: Studying the integration of direct admissions programs and financial aid (Phase I: Planning)</i> . 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

\$532,750	Education Strategy Group. 2026. <i>Partnering to launch direct admissions in Nebraska: A collaborative effort among the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, Nebraska Department of Education, and the Nebraska State College System</i> , with L. Norton (PI). Consultant (Quantitative Research Lead). Subcontract (\$90,000). Project funded by Buffett Foundation.
\$114,928	State of Tennessee. 2026. <i>Evaluation of Tennessee's college advising programs</i> . Principal Investigator. Project funded by State of Tennessee Department of Finance & Administration, Office of Evidence & Impact.
\$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). Subcontract (\$70,000). 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	Education Analytics [Keynote]; Lumina Foundation (Achieving College Affordability Convening [Panel], Great Admissions Redesign Convening [Plenary], State Policy Convening); National Association for College Admission Counseling (Inaugural Center for Innovation in College Admission Summit); Tennessee Higher Education Commission; University of Georgia (Louise McBee Institute of Higher Education); University of Wisconsin, Madison (Educational Policy Studies, Interdisciplinary Training Seminar in Education Science, Introduction to Educational Policy Studies [Keynote], UW-Peking University Conference on Higher Education)
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- 2025 City University of New York; Come to Believe (College Access) Network Inaugural Convening; UW-Peking University Conference on Higher Education [canceled]; Rutgers University; Tennessee Higher Education Commission; University of Wisconsin, Madison (Educational Policy Studies, Introduction to 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 [Keynote], Introduction to Educational Policy Studies)
- 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, Introduction to Educational Policy Studies, 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/practitioner)

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., & González Canché, 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

- Burmicky, J., Carter, E., McFadden, D., Odle, T. K., & Wright-Kim, J. (2026). A PLUS or a minus? A qualitative exploration of students, parents, and financial aid administrators. San Juan, PR.
- 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

- Castrejón, A.+ , & Odle, T. K. (2026). University direct admissions programs' impact on student diversity. Baltimore, MD.
- 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

- Elliott, P., Gipson, B., McMullen, I.+ , & Odle, T. K. (2026). Effective innovations: Putting research into practice. SHEEO Policy Conference. Chicago, IL.
- Heath, M., Odle, T. K., Photivihok, M., & Ross Anderson, T. (2026). From vision to evidence: Lessons from Tennessee's direct admissions pilot. National Association for College Admission Counseling. Minneapolis, MN.
- Odle, T. K. (2026). The power of "free" college: Reducing racial, socioeconomic, and geographic inequalities in educational aspirations. Council for the Study of Community Colleges. Salt Lake City, UT.
- Odle, T. K. (2026). What does it cost to support student success? Comparative cost analyses of community college initiatives. Council for the Study of Community Colleges. Salt Lake City, UT.
- 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.

Teaching

Awards, Certifications, and Ongoing Development

Chancellor's Deliberation Dinners [Facilitator], University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2024-25, 2025-26, 2026-27
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 (graduate), *Instructor*
Economics of Education (undergrad/graduate), *Instructor*
Introduction to Debates in Higher Education Policy (undergrad/graduate), *Instructor*
Introduction to Quantitative Methods in Education Policy (undergraduate), *Instructor*
Is College Possible? College Access and Admissions in the U.S. (undergrad/graduate), *Course Developed*

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 (graduate), *Teaching Assistant*
Program Evaluation and Data Analysis (graduate), *Teaching Assistant*
Quantitative Research Methods (doctoral), *Teaching Assistant*
Quasi-Experimental Design (hybrid due to COVID, graduate), *Teaching Assistant*

University of Tennessee-Knoxville

Ethics in Leadership (online, honors, undergraduate), *Instructor*
Theory and Practice in Leadership (honors, undergraduate), *Instructor*
Introduction to Leadership (undergraduate), *Teaching Assistant*
Servant Leadership and Social Justice (experiential, undergraduate), *Teaching Assistant*
Student Leadership Development (experiential, undergraduate), *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
* UW-Madison Institute for Diversity Science (IDS) Graduate Fellow
* Institute for Research on Poverty (IRP) Graduate Research Fellow (2026-27)
* 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)

Yaze Li, Ph.D. in Educational Policy Studies

Dissertation Committee Member

Joshua Bach-Hanson, Ph.D. in Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis, UW-Madison (in progress)

Jacob Bills, Ph.D. in Agricultural and Applied Economics, UW-Madison (2026)

Dylan Burke, Ph.D. in Economics, University of South Carolina (in progress)

Jared Colston, Ph.D. in Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis, UW-Madison (2025)

Christin Gates Calloway, Ph.D. in Educational Policy Studies, UW-Madison (in progress)

Xinyu Guan, Ph.D. in Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis, UW-Madison (in progress)

Nan Fu, Ph.D. in Economics, UT-Dallas (2025)

Noah Hirschl, Ph.D. in Sociology, UW-Madison (2023)

Sara Lazenby, Ph.D. in Educational Policy Studies, UW-Madison (in progress)

Heather Little, Ph.D. in Economics, UW-Madison (in progress)

Siyuan Luo, Ph.D. in Economics, UT-Dallas (2025)

Isabel McMullen, Ph.D. in Political Science, UW-Madison (in progress)

David Walker, Ph.D. in Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis, UW-Madison (in progress)

Jake Wertz, Ph.D. in Sociology, UW-Madison (2023)

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)

Ladan Shojaei, Faculty Advisor (SREE Summer Fellow; Indiana University)

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>The Journal of Higher Education</i> , 2023-Present <i>Journal of Research on Educational Effectiveness</i> , 2025-Present <i>Research in Higher Education</i> , 2023-Present <i>The Review of Higher Education</i> , 2026-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
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Referee (ad-hoc)	<i>The Quarterly Journal of Economics</i> , <i>Journal of Public 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</i>
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of Educational Research, Review of Higher Education, AERA Open, Nature Communications, Southern Economic Journal, Journal of Student Financial Aid, Educational Policy, Teachers College Record, American Journal of Education, Community College Review, Journal of Critical Scholarship on Higher Education and Student Affairs, Education Policy Analysis Archives, Higher Education Policy, Perspectives on Urban Education.

* Exemplary/Outstanding Reviewer Award

Program Committee	Association for Education Finance and Policy (Postsecondary Student Access, Admissions, Finances, and Success; Data Systems and Methodological Perspectives), 2021-2026 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (Education Sub-Committee), 2023-2026 [PROGRAM CO-CHAIR: 2026] Association for the Study of Higher Education (Graduate Student Policy Seminar, Outreach Team), 2021
Session Chair/ Discussant	American Educational Research Association Association for Education Finance & Policy Association for the Study of Higher Education (Presidential Session) Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness
Proposal Reviewer	American Educational Research Association (Division J) Association for Education Finance and Policy Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Association for the Study of Higher Education Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness
Member	American Educational Research Association Association for Education Finance and Policy Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Association for the Study of Higher Education Council on Public Policy in Higher Education Society for Causal Inference (former) Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness
Other	AIR-NCES, Selection Review Panel for NCES Data Institute (2019) AEFP, LGBTQ+ Scholars Community Group Co-Chair (2025-26) AEFP, LGBTQ+ Scholars Mentor (2024, 2025) AERA, Division J Dissertation of the Year Selection Committee (2025-28) Arnold Ventures, Research Methodology Consultant (Education), 2026-Present The Brookings Institution, College Access & Completion Expert Panel (2024) The Brookings Institution, State Financial Aid Policy Expert Panel (2026) The College Board, Policy Fellows Advisory Council (2023-Present) IES Expert Advisory Panel: <i>Estimating the Costs of Compliance and Accreditation to Support Postsecondary Student Success</i> (2025-26) Lumina Foundation, Great Admissions Redesign Research Advisor (2024-25) Lumina Foundation, Reviewer for the Great Admissions Redesign (2023, 2025) SHEEO, Member of the Equity and Adequacy Funding Partners Working Group (2023-Present) SHEEO, Research Co-Lead for the Direct Admissions & Common App Community of Practice (2021-2023) SREE, Summer Fellow Faculty Advisor (2026) SREE, Review Panel for SREE Summer Fellows (2023, 2024, 2025, 2026)

To the Institution

University of
Wisconsin-Madison

Board of Regents / Universities of Wisconsin

Board of Regents Direct Admissions Task Force, 2022-2024
Copyright Working Group, 2025
Future of Wisconsin Higher Education Work Group, 2025
System Shared Governance Council, 2025-Present

UW-Madison

Chancellor's Deliberation Dinners [Facilitator], 2024-Present
Committee on Undergraduate Recruitment, Admissions, and Financial
Aid (2024-2029) [CO-CHAIR: 2025-26, 2026-27]
Data Science Institute Executive Committee, Spring 2026-Present
General Education Academic Outcomes and Assessment Committee, 2024-25
PROFS Steering Committee, 2023-Present
Vice Provost for Enrollment Management Search Committee, 2026

School of Education

Academic Programs Committee, 2023-2025
Budget Approach Workgroup, 2024-25 and Fall 2025
Budget Committee, Spring 2026-Present
Faculty/Instructional Workload Committee, 2026-Present
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, 2023-26

Educational Policy Studies

Faculty Search Committee in RISE-Earth, 2026-27
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)

Recognition and Awards

* Early Career Award, Association for Education Finance and Policy, 2026
* Early Career Award, Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness, 2026
* Raymond Vernon Memorial Award, Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management, 2023
* Outstanding Dissertation Award, American Educational Research Association (Division J), 2023
Postsecondary Education & Economics Research (PEER) Center, Summer Scholar (inaugural), 2026
“Top Education Scholar,” RHSU Edu-Scholar Public Influence Ranking (#134), 2026
Exemplary Reviewer Award, *The Journal of Higher Education*, 2024
Jean Flanagan Outstanding Dissertation Award (Nominee), AEF, 2023
Dissertation Fellowship, AERA/National Science Foundation, 2021-22
Conference Travel Award, AERA (Division J), 2021
Institute of Education Sciences Predoctoral Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania, 2020-22
Summer Fellowship, SREE, 2020
Penn Prize for Excellence in Teaching by Graduate Students, University of Pennsylvania, 2020
New Scholars Award (Nominee), AEF, 2020
Roe L. Johns Travel Grant, AEF, 2019-2021
Graduate Student Policy Seminar (Selected Participant, Competitive), ASHE, 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

Public Engagement and Evidence Use

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

Wisconsin Public Radio [NPR]. (2026, June 19). [State Supreme Court rules against college grant program for racial and ethnic minorities.](#) *

PBS Wisconsin *Here & Now*. (2026, June 12). [Taylor Odle on the Universities of Wisconsin tuition hikes.](#) *

ABC News 27 / WKOW. (2026, June 5). [Board of Regents approves 2% tuition hike for 2026-27 school year.](#) *

Wisconsin Public Radio [NPR]. (2026, February 6). [How end of affirmative action is affecting Black and Hispanic enrollment at Wisconsin colleges.](#) *

Re-educated. (2026, January 29). [188. The illusion of equal opportunity in higher education.](#)

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 Wisconsin *Here & Now*. (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)*

- 2026 Hoover, E. (2026, January 26). ['A strangely hopeful book:' What a scholar found when she explored the uncertain state of college admissions.](#) *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.
- O'Donnell, P. (2026, January 27). [As 'free college' plan turns 20, advocates celebrate, brace for political change.](#) *The 74 / Yahoo!*.
- Rambert, E, Albright, A., & Patino, M. (2026, January). [Plunging US birth rate leaves too many colleges with too few kids.](#) *Bloomberg*.
- Rivedal, K. (2026, February 3). [New UW-Madison study offers ways to increase adult enrollment in college.](#) *Wisconsin Center for Education Research / UW-Madison*. *
- Abdul-Alim, J. (2026, February 4). [Michigan free college program boosted adult enrollment, study finds.](#) *Higher Ed Dive*.
- Cox, L. (2026, February 6). [How end of affirmative action is affecting Black and Hispanic enrollment at Wisconsin colleges.](#) *Wisconsin Public Radio*. *
- Kozlowski, K. (2026, February 6). [Michigan residents with degrees, skills certificates rises, but state ranking falls.](#) *Bridge Michigan*.
- Marcus, J. (2026, February 11). [Getting in is getting easier: College admission is largely becoming a buyer's market.](#) *The Hechinger Report*.
- Sanchez, N. (2026, February 17). [UW-Madison faculty concerned new teaching requirements will limit research capacity, reduce staff autonomy.](#) *Daily Cardinal*. *
- Wilder, C. (2026, February 23). [Bill that would help cover costs for learning skilled trades lands bipartisan support.](#) *Mississippi Today*.
- Rivedal, K. (2026, March 10). [A closer look at how and why college advising works – at scale.](#) *Wisconsin Center for Education Research / UW-Madison*. *
- WGNS Nashville. (2026, March 14). [State study shows Advise TN boost college enrollment.](#) *WGNS Radio*.
- The Mountain Press. (2026, March 26). [Advise TN increases enrollment in college and technical training.](#) *Roane County News*.
- Rickard, J. (2026, March 30). [Stop treating college admission as a proxy for exclusion.](#) *US News*.
- Fadness, C. (2026, March 31). [Wisconsin joins 17 states in lawsuit to stop government from requiring gender, race admissions data from universities.](#) *The Badger Herald*. *
- Eddy, P. (2026, April 9). [Roll call on community college research.](#) *Community College Daily*.
- Bereny, A. (2026, April 11). [Regents attribute Rothman's removal to lack of urgency, transparency.](#) *The Daily Cardinal*. *
- Gandal, M. (2026, May 21). [Rebuilding trust in higher education starts by changing college admissions.](#) *Forbes*.
- Freyberg, F. (2026, June 15). ['Here & now' highlights: Jeff Lamont, Elmer Moore, Jr., Paula Tran, Taylor Odle.](#) *PBS Wisconsin*. *
- Lawrence, B. (2026, June 19). [Wisconsin can still boost college affordability after Supreme Court ruling, researcher says.](#) *Wisconsin Public Radio*. *

Lawrence, B. (2026, June 20). [Court tosses minority grant, but options remain to aid students.](#) *Urban Milwaukee*. *

Diep, F., & Gluckman, N. (2026, June 26). [Can Jennifer Mnookin heal Columbia? One of higher ed's most skilled negotiators arrives at one of its most fractured campuses.](#) *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.

Van Dam, A. (2026, July 2). [Which college majors have the best \(and worst\) career paths?](#) NOTUS.

Falayi, K. (2026, July 18). [Virginia's highest public earners come with a whistle or a corner office.](#) Virginia Center for Investigative Journalism at WHRO.

Abdul-Alim, J. (2026, Summer). [In college admissions, the direct approach may aid students AND schools.](#) *FOCUS Magazine* (Lumina Foundation).

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*.

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Complete College America. (2025, August 5). Tennessee transforms college access: How direct admissions with financial aid is changing the game. Complete College America.

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Georgetown University. (2020, March 6). [7 ways to support working college students](#). *The Feed*.

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

UW-Madison, Leadership in the Lab (Leadership Development Institute), 2026-27

NACAC, Center for Innovation in College Admission Inaugural Convening (Invited Attendee), 2026

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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