Stanford



Eric Bettinger

Conley DeAngelis Family Professor, Professor of Education, Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution and at the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research and Professor, by courtesy, of Economics at the Graduate School of Business

Graduate School of Education

Curriculum Vitae available Online

CONTACT INFORMATION

- **Admin. Support**

  Casey Chamberlain

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Bio

BIO

Eric Bettinger is the Conley DeAngelis Family Professor in the Stanford University School of Education and a Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution. He is also a research associate in the program on education at the National Bureau of Economic Research. Bettinger is the Director of the Center for Educational Policy Analysis and the Director at the Lemann Center for Brazilian Education at Stanford. His research interests include economics of education; student success and completion in college; the impacts of online education; the impacts of financial aid; teacher characteristics and student success in college; effects of voucher programs on both academic and non-academic outcomes. Eric's research focuses on using rigorous statistical methods in identifying cause-and-effect relationships in higher education. His research on simplifying financial aid applications has influenced recent efforts by the White House to simplify financial aid processes. He has served as a consultant to the White House and various state governments on financial aid policies.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Professor, Graduate School of Education
- Hoover Senior Fellow, Hoover Institution
- Senior Fellow, Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research (SIEPR)
- Professor (By courtesy), Economics

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

- Conley DeAngelis Family Professor of Education and Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University, (2008- present)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Honorary Doctorate, University of Zurich (2021)

BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Affiliate, Stanford Center for Education Policy Analysis, Lemann Center for Entrepreneurship and Educational Innovation in Brazil, Stanford Center for International Development, Center for Analysis of Postsecondary Education and Employment at Teacher's College, Center for the Analysis for Postsecondary Readiness at Teacher's College, CESifo (2019 - present)

- Research Associate, National Bureau of Economic Research (2003 - present)
- Affiliate, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (2015 - present)
- Faculty Director, Aspen-Stanford Collaboration on Community College Leadership, Stanford University (2015 - 2023)
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Economics, Case Western Reserve (2000 - 2008)

PROGRAM AFFILIATIONS

- Public Policy

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Massachusetts Institute of Technology , Economics (2000)
- B.A., Brigham Young University , Economics. Magna cum Laude, Honors (1996)

Research & Scholarship

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Assessment & Evaluation
- Data Science
- Economics of Education
- Education Policy
- Global and Comparative Education
- Higher Education
- Learning Technologies
- Quantitative Methods

CURRENT RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY INTERESTS

Recent Publications:

Bettinger, Eric, Nina Cunha, Guilherme Lichand, and Ricardo Madeira, “Are the Effects of Informational Interventions Driven by Salience?” Forthcoming American Economic Journal: Economic Policy.

Guilherme Lichand, Elliot Ash, Benjamin Arold, Jairo Gudino, Carlos Alberto Doria, Ana Trindade, Eric Bettinger, David Yeager (2025), “Measuring student mindsets at scale in resource-constrained settings: A toolkit with an application to Brazil during the pandemic” Research on Adolescence 35(1): e13008.

Bettinger, E., & Fidjeland, A. (2024). College rankings, labor market outcomes, and alumni satisfaction. Education Economics, 32(5), 703–720.

Patrick Lehnert, Michael Niederberger, Uschi Backes-Gellner, and Eric Bettinger (2023) "Proxying economic activity with daytime satellite imagery: Filling data gaps across time and space" PNAS Nexus 2(4):1-10.

Bettinger, E., Fairlie, R., Kapuza, A., Kardanova, E., Loyalka, P. and Zakharov, A. (2023), Diminishing Marginal Returns to Computer-Assisted Learning. Journal of Policy Analysis and Management. 42(2): 552-570.

Forthcoming/Working Papers:

Bettinger, Eric, Michael Kremer, Maurice Kugler, Carlos Medina, Christian Posso and Juan Saavedra. “School Vouchers, Labor Markets, and Vocational Education” Under Submission.

Lichand, Guilherme, Eric Bettinger, Nina Cunha, and Ricardo Madeira, “The Psychological Effects of Poverty on Investments in Children’s Human Capital.” Under Submission.

Lehnert, Patrick, Madison Dell, Uschi Backes-Gellner, and Eric Bettinger “The Effect of Postsecondary Educational Institutions on Local Economies: A Bird’s-Eye View” Under Submission.

Balakrishnan, Sidhya, Eric Bettinger, Michael S Kofoed, Dubravka Ritter, Douglas A Webber, Ege Aksu, Jonathan S Hartley, “Navigating Higher Education Insurance: An Experimental Study on Demand and Adverse Selection” Under Submission.

Bettinger, Eric, Monica Lee, and Bridget Terry Long. “Connecting Students with Financial Aid: The Impact of Information on Aid Renewal and Postsecondary Persistence” Under Submission.

Bettinger, Eric, Álvaro Carril, Michael Kremer, Christopher A. Neilson,Christian Posso, and Juan E. Saavedra. "Information Frictions in Student Loan Markets: Evidence from ChatBot Experiments at Scale."

Other Notable/Highly Cited Publications:

Bettinger, Eric, Lindsay Fox, Susanna Loeb, and Eric Taylor, (2017) “Changing Distributions: How Online College Classes Alter Student and Professor Performance.” American Economic Review 107(9): 2855-75. [equal authorship].

Bettinger, Eric, Bridget Long, Phil Oreopoulos and Lisa Sanbonmatsu, (2012) "The Role of Simplification and Information: Evidence from the FAFSA Experiment.” Quarterly Journal of Economics 127 (3), 1205-1242. [equal authorship]

Angrist, Joshua, Eric Bettinger, Erik Bloom, Michael Kremer, and Elizabeth King (2002) “The Effects of School Vouchers on Students: Evidence from Colombia,” American Economic Review 92(5): 1535-1558. [equal authorship].

PROJECTS

- Improving Brazilian Vocational Education - Stanford University, Spencer Foundation, Stanford Impact Labs, Stanford's King Center

Teaching

COURSES

2026-27

- Economic Policy Analysis for Policymakers: INTLPOL 204B, PUBLPOL 301B (Spr)
- The Economics of Higher Education: EDUC 347 (Aut)
- The Economics of Higher Education: GSBGEN 348 (Aut)

- Topics in Brazilian Education: Public Policy and Innovation for the 21st Century: EDUC 404 (Aut)

2025-26

- Economic Policy Analysis for Policymakers: INTLPOL 204B, PUBLPOL 301B (Spr)
- Experimental Research Design and Analysis: EDUC 430A (Aut)
- Topics in Brazilian Education: Public Policy and Innovation for the 21st Century: EDUC 404 (Aut)

2024-25

- Economic Policy Analysis for Policymakers: INTLPOL 204B, PUBLPOL 301B (Spr)
- The Economics of Higher Education: EDUC 347 (Aut)
- The Economics of Higher Education: GSBGEN 348 (Aut)
- Topics in Brazilian Education: Public Policy and Innovation for the 21st Century: EDUC 404 (Aut)

2023-24

- Economic Policy Analysis for Policymakers: INTLPOL 204B, PUBLPOL 301B (Spr)
- Experimental Research Design and Analysis: EDUC 430A (Aut)
- Topics in Brazilian Education: Public Policy and Innovation for the 21st Century: EDUC 404 (Aut)

STANFORD ADVISEES

Doctoral Dissertation Reader (AC)

Mridul Joshi

Doctoral Dissertation Advisor (AC)

Dallas Gilmore

Doctoral (Program)

Sergio Arango, Dallas Gilmore

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **When the Effects of Informational Interventions Are Driven by Salience - Evidence from School Parents in Brazil** *AMERICAN ECONOMIC JOURNAL-ECONOMIC POLICY*
  Lichand, G., Cunha, N., Madeira, R. A., Bettinger, E.
  2026; 18 (3): 101-134
- **The road not taken: Socioemotional learning and academic rigor** *EUROPEAN ECONOMIC REVIEW*
  Bettinger, E. P., Rege, M., Solli, I. F., Thijssen, M. T., Yeager, D. S.
  2026; 187
- **Data Collection and Monitoring in an Educational RCT of a Postsecondary Access Program: Assessing Internal and External Validity** *EDUCATION SCIENCES*
  Evans, B., Bettinger, E., Antonio, A.
  2025; 15 (3)
- **Measuring student mindsets at scale in resource-constrained settings: A toolkit with an application to Brazil during the pandemic.** *Journal of research on adolescence : the official journal of the Society for Research on Adolescence*
  Lichand, G., Ash, E., Arold, B., Gudino, J., Doria, C. A., Trindade, A., Bettinger, E., Yeager, D.
  2024
- **College rankings, labor market outcomes, and alumni satisfaction** *EDUCATION ECONOMICS*
  Bettinger, E., Fidjeland, A.

2024

- **Proxying economic activity with daytime satellite imagery: Filling data gaps across time and space.** *PNAS nexus*
  Lehnert, P., Niederberger, M., Backes-Gellner, U., Bettinger, E.
  2023; 2 (4): pgad099
- **Diminishing Marginal Returns to Computer-Assisted Learning** *JOURNAL OF POLICY ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT*
  Bettinger, E., Fairlie, R., Kapuza, A., Kardanova, E., Loyalka, P., Zakharov, A.
  2022
- **Finishing the Last Lap: Experimental Evidence on Strategies to Increase Attainment for Students Near College Completion** *JOURNAL OF POLICY ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT*
  Bettinger, E. P., Castleman, B. L., Choe, A., Mabel, Z.
  2022
- **Unmet Need: Evaluating Pell as a Lever for Equitable Dual Enrollment Participation and Outcomes** *EDUCATIONAL EVALUATION AND POLICY ANALYSIS*
  Bettinger, E. P., Lu, A., Matheny, K. T., Kienzl, G. S.
  2022
- **The effects of public high school subsidies on student test scores The case of a full-day high school in Pernambuco, Brazil** *ECONOMICS OF EDUCATION REVIEW*
  Rosa, L., Bettinger, E., Carnoy, M., Dantas, P.
  2022; 87
- **How Can We Inspire Nations of Learners? An Investigation of Growth Mindset and Challenge-Seeking in Two Countries** *AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGIST*
  Rege, M., Hanselman, P., Solli, I., Dweck, C. S., Ludvigsen, S., Bettinger, E., Crosnoe, R., Muller, C., Walton, G., Duckworth, A., Yeager, D. S.
  2021; 76 (5): 755-767
- **Virtual advising for high-achieving high school students** *ECONOMICS OF EDUCATION REVIEW*
  Gurantz, O., Pender, M., Mabel, Z., Larson, C., Bettinger, E.
  2020; 75
- **Online education platforms scale college STEM instruction with equivalent learning outcomes at lower cost.** *Science advances*
  Chirikov, I., Semenova, T., Maloshonok, N., Bettinger, E., Kizilcec, R. F.
  2020; 6 (15): eaay5324
- **The Structure of Peers: The Impact of Peer Networks on Academic Achievement** *RESEARCH IN HIGHER EDUCATION*
  Berthelon, M., Bettinger, E., Kruger, D. I., Montecinos-Pearce, A.
  2019; 60 (7): 931–59
- **College Guidance for All: A Randomized Experiment in Pre-College Advising** *JOURNAL OF POLICY ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT*
  Bettinger, E. P., Evans, B. J.
  2019; 38 (3): 579-+
- **The Long-Run Impacts of Financial Aid: Evidence from California's Cal Grant** *AMERICAN ECONOMIC JOURNAL-ECONOMIC POLICY*
  Bettinger, E., Gurantz, O., Kawano, L., Sacerdote, B., Stevens, M.
  2019; 11 (1): 64–94
- **Mass Instruction or Higher Learning? The Impact of College Class Size on Student Retention and Graduation** *EDUCATION FINANCE AND POLICY*
  Bettinger, E. P., Long, B.
  2018; 13 (1): 97–118
- **The Effect of Labor Market Information on Community College Students' Major Choice** *ECONOMICS OF EDUCATION REVIEW*
  Baker, R., Bettinger, E., Jacob, B., Marinescu, I.
  2018; 65: 18–30
- **Increasing perseverance in math: Evidence from a field experiment in Norway** *JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC BEHAVIOR & ORGANIZATION*
  Bettinger, E., Ludvigsen, S., Rege, M., Solli, I. F., Yeager, D.

2018; 146: 1–15

- **Virtual Classrooms: How Online College Courses Affect Student Success** *AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW*
  Bettinger, E. P., Fox, L., Loeb, S., Taylor, E. S.
  2017; 107 (9): 2855-2875
- **The effects of class size in online college courses: Experimental evidence** *ECONOMICS OF EDUCATION REVIEW*
  Bettinger, E., Doss, C., Loeb, S., Rogers, A., Taylor, E.
  2017; 58: 68–85
- **Connections Matter: How Interactive Peers Affect Students in Online College Courses** *JOURNAL OF POLICY ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT*
  Bettinger, E., Liu, J., Loeb, S.
  2016; 35 (4): 932-?
- **When inputs are outputs: The case of graduate student instructors** *ECONOMICS OF EDUCATION REVIEW*
  Bettinger, E. P., Long, B. T., Taylor, E. S.
  2016; 52: 63-76
- **Special issue on Behavioral Economics of Education Introduction** *JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC BEHAVIOR & ORGANIZATION*
  Bettinger, E., Nielsen, H., Schunk, D.
  2015; 115: 1-2
- **Need-Based Aid and College Persistence: The Effects of the Ohio College Opportunity Grant** *EDUCATIONAL EVALUATION AND POLICY ANALYSIS*
  Bettinger, E.
  2015; 37: 102S-119S
- **Need-based aid and college persistence: The effects of the Ohio College Opportunity Grant** *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*
  Bettinger, E.
  2015; 37 (1_suppl): 102S-119S
- **Home with Mom: The Effects of Stay-at-Home Parents on Children's Long-Run Educational Outcomes** *JOURNAL OF LABOR ECONOMICS*
  Bettinger, E., Haegeland, T., Rege, M.
  2014; 32 (3): 443-467
- **The Effects of Student Coaching: An Evaluation of a Randomized Experiment in Student Advising** *EDUCATIONAL EVALUATION AND POLICY ANALYSIS*
  Bettinger, E. P., Baker, R. B.
  2014; 36 (1): 3-19
- **The effects of student coaching: An evaluation of a randomized experiment in student advising** *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*
  Bettinger, E. P., Baker, R. B.
  2014; 36 (1): 3-19
- **Home with mom: the effects of stay-at-home parents on children’s long-run educational outcomes** *Journal of Labor Economics*
  Bettinger, E., Hægeland, T., Rege, M.
  2014; 32 (3): 443-467
- **Lessons learned from a data-driven college access program: The National College Advising Corps.** *New directions for youth development*
  Horng, E. L., Evans, B. J., Antonio, A. L., Foster, J. D., Kalamkarian, H. S., Hurd, N. F., Bettinger, E. P.
  2013; 2013 (140): 55-75
- **Improving College Performance and Retention the Easy Way: Unpacking the ACT Exam** *AMERICAN ECONOMIC JOURNAL-ECONOMIC POLICY*
  Bettinger, E. P., Evans, B. J., Pope, D. G.
  2013; 5 (2): 26-52
- **Student Supports: Developmental Education and Other Academic Programs** *FUTURE OF CHILDREN*
  Bettinger, E. P., Boatman, A., Long, B. T.
  2013; 23 (1): 93-115

- **Improving college performance and retention the easy way: Unpacking the ACT exam** *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*
  Bettinger, E. P., Evans, B. J., Pope, D. G.
  2013; 5 (2): 26-52
- **Lessons learned from a data#driven college access program: The National College Advising Corps** *New directions for youth development*
  Horng, E. L., Evans, B. J., Antonio, A. L., Foster, J. D., Kalamkarian, H. S., Hurd, N. F., Bettinger, E. P.
  2013; 2013 (140): 55-75
- **The Role of Application Assistance and Information in College Decisions: Results from the H & R Block Fafsa Experiment** *QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF ECONOMICS*
  Bettinger, E. P., Long, B. T., Oreopoulos, P., Sanbonmatsu, L.
  2012; 127 (3): 1205-1242
- **PAYING TO LEARN: THE EFFECT OF FINANCIAL INCENTIVES ON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEST SCORES** *REVIEW OF ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS*
  Bettinger, E. P.
  2012; 94 (3): 686-698
- **The role of simplification and information: Evidence from the FAFSA experiment** *Quarterly Journal of Economics*
  Bettinger, E., Long, B., Oreopoulos, P., Sanbonmatsu, L.
  2012; 123 (3): 1205-1242
- **Financial Aid A Blunt Instrument for Increasing Degree Attainment** *GETTING TO GRADUATION: THE COMPLETION AGENDA IN HIGHER EDUCATION*
  Bettinger, E.
  edited by Kelly, A. P., Schneider, M.
  2012: 157-174
- **Educational Vouchers in International Contexts** *HANDBOOK OF THE ECONOMICS OF EDUCATION, VOL 4*
  Bettinger, E.
  edited by Hanushek, E. A., Machin, S., Woessmann, L.
  2011; 4: 551-572
- **ARE EDUCATIONAL VOUCHERS ONLY REDISTRIBUTIVE?** *ECONOMIC JOURNAL*
  Bettinger, E., Kremer, M., Saavedra, J. E.
  2010; 120 (546): F204-F228
- **DOES CHEAPER MEAN BETTER? THE IMPACT OF USING ADJUNCT INSTRUCTORS ON STUDENT OUTCOMES** *REVIEW OF ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS*
  Bettinger, E. P., Long, B. T.
  2010; 92 (3): 598-613
- **Addressing the Needs of Underprepared Students in Higher Education Does College Remediation Work?** *JOURNAL OF HUMAN RESOURCES*
  Bettinger, E. P., Long, B. T.
  2009; 44 (3): 736-771
- **Education Vouchers in Colombia** *EMERGING EVIDENCE ON VOUCHERS AND FAITH-BASED PROVIDERS IN EDUCATION: CASE STUDIES FROM AFRICA, LATIN AMERICA, AND ASIA*
  Bettinger, E., Kremer, M., Saavedra, J. E.
  edited by BarreraOsorio, F., Patrinos, H. A., Wodon, Q.
  2009: 71-78
- **Vouchers for private schooling in Colombia: Evidence from a randomized natural experiment** *AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW*
  Angrist, J., Bettinger, E., Bloom, E., King, E., Kremer, M.
  2002; 92 (5): 1535-1558