

Seth Walker

Last updated: February 12, 2026

Contact Information

Department of Economics
Michigan State University
486 W. Circle Dr.
110 Marshall-Adams Hall
East Lansing, MI 48824-1038

CELL: (757) 651-2607
OFFICE: (517) 355-7583
EMAIL: walke893@msu.edu
WEBSITE: www.sethwalker.org

Education

Ph.D.	Economics, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI	Expected May 2026
M.A.	Economics, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI	2022
B.S.	Economics, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA, <i>summa cum laude</i> MINOR: MATHEMATICS	2020
B.M.	Music Performance, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA, <i>summa cum laude</i>	2020

Research Interests

Applied Microeconomics, Labor Economics, Public Economics, and Economics of Education

Job Market Paper

- *Losing Aid, Losing Ground? The Academic and Career Consequences of Financial Aid Loss: Evidence from the TEXAS Grant.* Under Review. [\[PDF\]](#)

Publications

- *Measuring Teacher Effectiveness for Gifted and Talented Students* - with Scott Imberman and Katharine Strunk. *Economics of Education Review*, 2025. [\[DOI\]](#) | [\[PDF\]](#)
- *Financial Aid Package Composition and Postsecondary Outcomes for Low-income Students: Evidence from the Spartan Advantage Program.* Forthcoming in *Education Finance and Policy*. [\[DOI\]](#) | [\[PDF\]](#)
- *The Path of Student Learning Delay During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Evidence from Michigan* - with Katharine Strunk, Tara Kilbride, Scott Imberman, Dongming Yu, Bryant Hopkins. Forthcoming in *Education Finance and Policy*. [\[DOI\]](#) | [\[PDF\]](#)

Working Papers

- *Teaching on Borrowed Time: How the Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program Delays, But Does Not Prevent, Teacher Attrition.* [\[PDF\]](#)

Work in Progress

- *Estimating the Overall Effects of Statewide Early Literacy Policies: Evidence from Michigan* - with Josep Nadal-Fernandez and Tara Kilbride.

- *When Advanced Learning Programs Expand: Evidence on Access and Achievement* - with Tara Kilbride

Technical Reports

- *Retention and Exemption Decisions Under the Read by Grade Three Law* - with Tara Kilbride and Josep Nadal-Fernandez - EPIC Research Report, 2024. [\[Report\]](#)
- *Insight to MSU's Applicant Funnel: An Introduction & Foundation* - with Emilio Esposito and Steven Miller, Office for Enrollment & Strategic Planning Report, 2024. [\[Report\]](#)
- *Read by Grade Three Retention Eligibility: 2023 Update* - with Tara Kilbride, EPIC Research Report, 2023. [\[Report\]](#)

Conference and Seminar Presentations

2025: Association for Public Policy and Management; Midwest Economics of Education (Flash Talk); MSU Empirical Micro Seminar; MSU Grand River Conference; UM-MSU-UWO Labor Day; Midwest Economics Association; Association for Education and Finance Policy

2024: Southern Economics Association; MSU Empirical Micro Seminar

2023: MSU Red Cedar Conference

Research Experience

Research Assistant, Education Policy Innovation Collaborative (MSU)	Spring 2023-
Research Assistant, Professor Scott Imberman (MSU)	Spring 2023-Summer 2025
Research Assistant, Professor Steven Miller and Dr. Emilio Esposito (MSU Office of the Provost)	Spring 2022-Summer 2025
Research Assistant, Professor Vipul Bhatt (JMU)	Spring 2018-Spring 2020

Teaching Experience

Instructor

EC 370 - Economics of Sports	Summer 2022
------------------------------	-------------

Teaching Assistant

ISS 328 - The Social Science of Sports	Fall 2022
EC 425 - Law and Economics	Spring 2022
EC 420 - Introduction to Econometric Methods	Fall 2021
EC 301 - Intermediate Microeconomics	Spring 2021
EC 302 - Intermediate Macroeconomics	Fall 2020

Grants & Awards

Travel Fellowship (MSU)	2025
Research Enhancement Award (MSU)	2024
Red Cedar Award (MSU)	2023
<i>Awarded for best third-year paper among Economics Ph.D. students</i>	
Faculty Award for Academic Excellence in Economics (JMU)	2020
The Phi Beta Kappa Society (JMU)	2019

Service

Referee Service

Education Finance and Policy, Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis

University Service

Enrollment and Academic Strategic Planning Think Tank

2022-2023

Department of Economics First-Year Mentor

2021-2022

Software

R, Stata, L^AT_EX

References

Scott Imberman (Chair)

Professor

Department of Economics

Michigan State University

imberman@msu.edu

Todd Elder

Professor

Department of Economics

Michigan State University

telder@msu.edu

Steven Miller

Professor

Department of Agricultural, Food,
and Resource Economics

Michigan State University

mill1707@msu.edu

Tara Kilbride

Associate Director

EPIC

Michigan State University

kilbrid9@msu.edu