

# James Okun

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CONTACT INFORMATION	Email: jokun@mit.edu	
EDUCATION	<b>Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)</b> , Cambridge, MA, United States PhD in Economics, 2022—present	
	<b>Brown University</b> , Providence, RI, United States Bachelor of Science with Honors in Applied Mathematics-Economics, 2020 Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science, 2020 <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	Predoctoral Research Assistant for Professor Amy Finkelstein	2020-2022
TEACHING	A Crash Course in Basics of Programming, Replication, and Numerical Methods (MIT) Instructor	2025-2026
	Mathematical Econometrics (Brown) Teaching Assistant	2020
	Real Analysis (Brown) Teaching Assistant	2019-2020
	Deep Learning (Brown) Teaching Assistant	2019
	Multivariable Calculus (Brown) Teaching Assistant	2018
WORKING PAPERS	“Racial Differences in Nursing Home Value Added” with Liran Einav, Amy Finkelstein, and Neale Mahoney, 2026	
PUBLICATIONS	“Pandemic Schooling Mode and Student Test Scores: Evidence from US School Districts” with Rebecca Jack, Clare Halloran, and Emily Oster, <i>American Economic Review: Insights</i> , 2023	
HONORS AND AWARDS	Jerry A. Hausman Graduate Dissertation Fellowship · <i>MIT Economics Department</i> Fiscal and Economic Effects of Innovation and Productivity Policies Fellowship · <i>NBER</i> Supported by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation grant G-2024-22690	2025-2027
	Aging and Health Graduate Fellowship · <i>NBER</i> Supported by the National Institute on Aging grant T32-AG000186	2024-2025
	MIT Graduate Fellowship · <i>MIT</i>	2022-2024
	Outstanding Thesis Award in Economics · <i>Brown University Economics Department</i>	2020
	Pathfinder Scholarship in Mathematics · <i>Pathfinders</i>	2016
PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES	<i>Conference Presentations and Discussions</i> ASSA	2024

*Service*

Organizer, MIT Industrial Organization Tea/Lunch  
President, MIT Graduate Economics Association  
Treasurer, MIT Graduate Economics Association

2024-2026  
2024-2025  
2023-2024

*Refereeing*

*American Economic Review: Insights, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*