

James Okun

CONTACT INFORMATION	Email: jokun@mit.edu	
EDUCATION	<p>Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, MA, United States</p> <p>PhD in Economics, 2022—present</p> <p>Brown University, Providence, RI, United States</p> <p>Bachelor of Science with Honors in Applied Mathematics-Economics, 2020</p> <p>Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science, 2020</p> <p><i>Magna Cum Laude</i></p>	
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	Predoctoral Research Assistant for Professor Amy Finkelstein	2020-2022
TEACHING	<p>A Crash Course in Basics of Programming, Replication, and Numerical Methods (MIT) Instructor</p> <p>Mathematical Econometrics (Brown) Teaching Assistant</p> <p>Real Analysis (Brown) Teaching Assistant</p> <p>Deep Learning (Brown) Teaching Assistant</p> <p>Multivariable Calculus (Brown) Teaching Assistant</p>	<p>2025-2026</p> <p>2020</p> <p>2019-2020</p> <p>2019</p> <p>2018</p>
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	<p>Jerry A. Hausman Graduate Dissertation Fellowship · <i>MIT Economics Department</i></p> <p>Fiscal and Economic Effects of Innovation and Productivity Policies Fellowship · <i>NBER</i></p> <p>Supported by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation grant G-2024-22690</p> <p>Aging and Health Graduate Fellowship · <i>NBER</i></p> <p>Supported by the National Institute on Aging grant T32-AG000186</p> <p>MIT Graduate Fellowship · <i>MIT</i></p> <p>Outstanding Thesis Award in Economics · <i>Brown University Economics Department</i></p> <p>Pathfinder Scholarship in Mathematics · <i>Pathfinders</i></p>	<p>2025-2027</p> <p>2025-2026</p> <p></p> <p>2024-2025</p> <p></p> <p>2022-2024</p> <p>2020</p> <p>2016</p>
PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES	<i>Conference Presentations and Discussions</i> ASSA	2024

Service

Organizer, MIT Industrial Organization Tea/Lunch

2024-2026

President, MIT Graduate Economics Association

2024-2025

Treasurer, MIT Graduate Economics Association

2023-2024

Refereeing

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