

Computational economics research assistant

(multiple positions available)

Employer: E. Glen Weyl is a second-year junior fellow in economics at the Harvard Society of Fellows. He was 2007 undergraduate valedictorian at Princeton University and graduated in 2008 with his Ph.D. in economics. His current research focuses on studying and designing markets, including high-tech industries, intellectual property and land assembly (eminent domain). His co-authors, with whom you would also work, include Jean Tirole and Scott Kominers, a Harvard Business School PhD student. References, from previous research assistants, about the experience are available.

Work: Assist in the computational implementation of new designs of markets, such as land assembly (eminent domain) and intellectual property policy. Design user-friendly interfaces for market participants, to be used in experiments and real-world implementations. Build computational partial differential equation and calculus of variations solvers for specific problems to verify theoretical results and allow other researchers to build on these. Potentially build interactive tools and software for teaching and disseminating research. Assist with computational research simulations and the creation of graphical demonstrations of mathematical results. Help in the formatting and presentation of research in LaTeX. Participate in creating presentations. Assist with data management.

Qualifications: Undergraduates and graduates both welcome. Strong computational background; computer science major or other strongly computational discipline. Thorough knowledge of, or ability to rapidly learn, LaTeX, Java, Stata, Mathematica and MatLab. Basic knowledge of partial differential equations and/or calculus of variation. Top grades (3.7+) in relevant classes. Interest in potentially pursuing economics further.

Pay: Base \$15 an hour; up to \$75 in bonus per week for excellent work. Opportunity to earn a letter of recommendation for graduate school and potentially to co-author a paper. Previous research assistants co-authored papers and gone on to graduate school at UPenn and Stanford GSB.

Hours and duration: Approximately 15 hours a week, on average, for the entire school year until mid-May. Schedule flexibility possible.

How to Apply: Send a resume, transcript and, if possible, a letter of recommendation to E. Glen Weyl; 78 Mount Auburn Street; Cambridge, MA 02138 and express interest via email at weyl@fas.harvard.edu. Students will be asked to interview before being hired.

Application deadline: September 11, 2009