Open Doors to a Bright Future

Economic Research Assistant

Positions at the Federal Reserve Board in Washington, DC

As the central bank of the United States, the Federal Reserve is one of the world’s most important, influential, and prestigious financial organizations. Since its founding in 1913, the Federal Reserve has been a key contributor to the stability, safety, and growth of our nation’s monetary and financial system.

Each year, the Board hires a number of research assistants (RAs) to support economists who conduct current analysis and research in the areas of monetary policy, bank regulation, payment systems, financial markets, and the state of the U.S. and global economies. The RAs work closely with the economic research staff, applying quantitative skills to both real-world policy issues and high-level research projects.

Research assistants are recruited from schools across the United States. RAs work at the Board for two-year terms before moving on to graduate programs or pursuing careers in other positions at the Board or other organizations.

The Board offers a competitive starting salary and an excellent benefits package that includes academic assistance, health and dental insurance, annual and sick leave, and savings and investment plans.
What RAs at the Board have to say

"Economists and managers are invested in the success of RAs. Besides having opportunities to work on some of the most current economic policy topics, there are many events, meetings, and programs we can participate in that will help us get into the best graduate schools. Everyone here is a mentor."

— Katie Boiles, Office of Financial Stability Policy and Research

"People think there’s just one viewpoint at the Fed. That’s not the case. What makes the Board a unique place to work is that there are many viewpoints and the ability to express these views in a collegial environment."

— Rebecca DeSimone, International Finance

"Working as an RA at the Board is an ideal position to have if you are considering a PhD in economics or finance. If you’re not, the position allows you to develop a set of quantitative skills that are broadly applicable in the job market and for other types of advanced degrees."

— Cailey Stevens, Monetary Affairs

"The Board offers generous academic assistance to RAs. This is a fantastic way to supplement your existing coursework and explore new fields of study."

— Tillman Elser, Monetary Affairs

"Working as an RA provides me with exposure to cutting-edge economic research. The position is teaching me how to carry out formal research projects and is also helping me develop great computer skills, which will be useful as I move into an ever more technologically oriented career landscape."

— Eric Legunn, Research and Statistics

Do I qualify?

To qualify, RAs must have an undergraduate degree in economics, math, or a related discipline. In addition, strong candidates will possess training in econometrics or mathematical statistics and experience with statistical computer software.

U.S. citizenship is required.

To learn more and apply
Please visit www.federalreserve.gov/careers/ra.htm.