

# CHASE ABRAM

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## Office Contact Information

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University of Chicago, Kenneth C. Griffin Department of Economics  
Saieh Hall for Economics  
5757 S University Ave  
Chicago, IL 60637

## Education

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<b>University of Chicago</b> , Ph.D. Economics	2019–2025 ( <i>expected</i> )
<b>Indiana University</b> , B.S. Mathematics, B.A. Economics	2015–2019

## References

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Professor Greg Kaplan (Chair) University of Chicago Kenneth C. Griffin Department of Economics gkaplan@uchicago.edu (773) 834-9405	Professor Christina Patterson University of Chicago Booth School of Business christina.patterson@chicagobooth.edu (617) 794-0521
Professor Erik Hurst University of Chicago Booth School of Business erik.hurst@chicagobooth.edu (773) 834-4073	

## Research and Teaching Fields

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Primary: Macro, Labor  
Secondary: Spatial

## Job Market Paper

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### **The Dynamics of Firm Size and Skill Composition: Theory and Evidence from Australia**

*Abstract: This paper examines the dynamics of firm size and skill composition, using microdata from Australian workers and firms between 2011 and 2019. I document that larger firms tend to have more skilled workers, but within individual firms, growth is associated with a shift toward lower-skilled labor. To explain these patterns, I develop a simple monopsony model that accounts for both total factor productivity and skill-biased productivity, and allow firms to choose their scale and workforce composition. I validate the model by analyzing the effects of a payroll tax policy change in South Australia, demonstrating that firms adjust both scale and skill mix in response to cost changes. Finally, I use a calibrated quantitative model of the Australian labor market to explore the implications of shifts in aggregate skill composition on the distributions of firm size and skill composition. The results highlight*

*how accounting for employment composition decisions by firms is crucial for understanding observed patterns of employment across firms and within firms over time.*

## Work in Progress

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### Mortality and Income Inequality

Urban Developer Dynamics (with Jordan Rosenthal-Kay)

## Awards, Scholarships, and Grants

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Marshall Field Fellowship, Theodore Schultz Economics Fellowship	<i>2024–2025</i>
Becker Friedman Institute Data Acquisition Grant (\$1,500)	<i>2024</i>
Urban Doctorial Fellow, Mansueto Institute, University of Chicago	<i>2022–2023</i>
Lee Prize (top score on Macro Core Exam), Kenneth C. Griffin Department of Economics	<i>2020</i>

## Teaching Experience

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Introductory Statistics (Executive MBA)	TA for Prof. Russell	<i>Winter 2023</i>
Mathematical Methods in Economics (graduate)	Instructor	<i>Fall 2022</i>
Introductory Statistics (graduate)	TA for Prof. Russell	<i>Fall 2022</i>
Theory of Income I (graduate)	TA for Prof. Stokey	<i>Fall 2021</i>
Mathematical Methods in Economics (graduate)	Instructor	<i>Fall 2021</i>
Empirical Analysis II (graduate)	TA for Profs. Hansen and Sargent	<i>Winter 2021</i>
Theory of Income I (graduate)	TA for Prof. Stokey	<i>Fall 2020</i>
Honors Intermediate Macro (undergraduate)	TA for Prof. Buler	<i>Spring 2019</i>
Principles of Micro (undergraduate)	TA for Prof. Graf	<i>Fall 2018</i>
Intermediate Micro (undergraduate)	TA for Prof. Kaganovich	<i>Spring 2018</i>
Honors Intermediate Micro (undergraduate)	TA for Prof. Walker	<i>Fall 2017</i>
Principles of Macro (undergraduate)	TA for Prof. Graf	<i>Spring 2017</i>
Finite Mathematics	Grader	<i>Spring 2017</i>
Principles of Micro (undergraduate)	TA for Prof. Graf	<i>Fall 2016</i>
Finite Mathematics (undergraduate)	TA	<i>Fall 2016</i>

## Research Experience and Other Employment

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Visiting Scholar, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago	<i>2024</i>
Research Assistant for Prof. Kaplan (UChicago) and Prof. Violante (Princeton)	<i>2021–2022</i>
Project Intern, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve	<i>2018</i>

## Additional Information

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<b>Citizenship</b>	United States
<b>Programming Skills</b>	Julia, Matlab, R
<b>Languages</b>	English (Native), Spanish (Novice), American Sign Language (Novice)