

# Regina Seo

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## PROFILE

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Applied economist and mixed-methods researcher with a decade of experience leading federally and foundation-funded research and evaluation end to end—designing quasi-experimental studies, analyzing large-scale administrative data and restricted federal microdata, managing multimillion-dollar projects and interdisciplinary teams, and translating findings for policymakers. Subject-matter expertise in labor, health, education, and disability policy, with a track record of stakeholder engagement and successful proposal development.

## CURRENT POSITIONS

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**Northwestern University** Evanston, IL  
Lead Economist, School of Education and Social Policy June 2023–  
Lecturer, Master’s of Science in Social and Economic Policy

- Lead quantitative economist on federally-funded research on education and labor market outcomes for people with disabilities, using quasi-experimental designs (difference-in-differences, regression discontinuity, instrumental variables, matching)
- Build and link longitudinal administrative records from multiple state agencies and restricted Census microdata (FSRDC access), with documented, replicable workflows
- Lead mixed-method implementation and impact evaluations spanning multi-site U.S. studies and an international evaluation across 170+ countries
- Author technical reports, policy briefs, and presentations for federal and state clients; contribute to federal proposals and manage \$7M+ in multi-site studies across interdisciplinary teams
- Teach a graduate course in health economics and policy (three offerings since 2023); mentor 20 graduate students

**Roosevelt Institute** New York, NY  
Fellow, Worker Power and Economic Security Jan 2025–  

- Develop a policy brief on structural barriers to aging in place, examining housing, health, and community infrastructure for older adults

## EDUCATION

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**American University** Washington, DC  
Ph.D. in Economics 2017–2023  
Dissertation: *Three Essays in Labor and Health Inequities by Race and Gender*

**Georgetown University** Washington, DC  
M.A. in Economics 2014–2015

**Emory University** Atlanta, GA  
B.A. in Economics and Mathematics, *summa cum laude* 2010–2014

## RESEARCH FIELDS

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Program Evaluation, Applied Microeconomics, Labor Economics, Health Economics

## GRANTS

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### **Virginia EPIC: Eliminating Subminimum Wages through Pathways to Integrated Competitive Employment**

Lead Economist (PI: M. Yin)

Federal Grant, \$4.29M

2022–2028

*Evaluating labor market and economic effects of subminimum wage elimination for people with disabilities across Virginia*

### **Maine Pathways to Partnerships: Improving Youth Transition Outcomes**

Lead Economist (PI: M. Yin)

Federal Grant, \$2.98M

2023–2028

*Assessing education and labor market outcomes for youth with disabilities in transition programs in Maine*

## JOURNAL ARTICLES

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M. Yin, **R. Seo**, and H. Vu (2026). The Labor Market Effects of Subminimum Wage Elimination: Evidence from a National Analysis. *Labour Economics*, 100: 102884. ([link](#))

I. González, **R. Seo**, and M. S. Floro (2022). Gender Wage Gap, Gender Norms, and Long-Term Care: A Theoretical Framework. *Feminist Economics*, 28(3): 84–113. ([link](#))

B. G. Gunter, **R. Seo**, and F. Tasneem (2021). How Do Female Labor Force Participation Rates Change During Episodes of Globalization and Marginalization? Evidence from 1990 to 2019. *International Journal of Interdisciplinary Global Studies*, 17(1): 1–12. ([link](#))

K. Choe, Y. Kang, **R. Seo**, and B. Yang (2015). Experiences of Learning Flow Among Korean Adolescents. *Learning and Individual Differences*, 39: 180–185. ([link](#))

## WORKING PAPERS

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Workforce Policy and Youth with Disabilities: Evidence from WIOA (with M. Yin and D. Guerrero)

What Explains the Disability Pay Gap? Revisiting the Role of Pre-market Skills (with M. Yin and A. Orellana), *under review*

Effects of Minimum Wage Increases on Labor Market Outcomes of People with Disabilities (with M. Yin)

Caring for Parents and Spouses: How Paid Leave Shapes Caregivers' Work and Well-Being, *under review*

Fostering Inclusion at Scale: A Mixed-Methods Evaluation of the Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools Program in Six Low- and Middle-Income Countries (with M. Yin)

## POLICY REPORTS

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Global Evaluation of the Special Olympics Unified Champions School Program in Six Countries (2024) (with M. Yin). *Six-country, multi-site evaluation assessing program effects on inclusion outcomes across 170+ participating nations*.

Valuing Rural Minority Communities: Inclusive Growth, Broadband, and Leadership (2022) (with M. Henry-Nickie). Brookings Institution. ([link](#))

Creating Community-Determined Rural Policies: How Native Women Transform Challenges into Impactful Social Entrepreneurship (2022) (with M. Henry-Nickie). Brookings Institution. ([link](#))

Broadband is the Economic Development Tool of the 21st Century: How Broadband Opens Doors for a Majority-Hispanic Boomtown in West Texas (2022) (with M. Henry-Nickie). Brookings Institution. ([link](#))

Empowering the Gullah/Geechee Economy (2022) (with M. Henry-Nickie). Brookings Institution. ([link](#))

Erasing Stigmas Through Community-Directed Change (2022) (with M. Henry-Nickie). Brookings Institution.

[\(link\)](#)

Black-Owned Businesses in U.S. Cities: The Challenges, Solutions, and Opportunities for Prosperity (2022) (with A. Perry, A. Barr, C. Romer, and K. Broady). Brookings Institution. [\(link\)](#)

## POLICY COMMENTARIES

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June's Jobs Report Shows Warning Signs for Workers of Color (July 2022) (with O. Odumosu, A. Barr, and A. Perry). Brookings Institution. [\(link\)](#)

Three Questions for the Labor Market's Near Future (June 2022) (with M. Henry-Nickie and A. Barr). Brookings Institution. [\(link\)](#)

As the Jobs Recovery Nears Completion, It's Time to Talk About Job Quality (April 2022) (with M. Henry-Nickie and A. Barr). Brookings Institution. [\(link\)](#)

Even with Positive Job Reports, Systemic Problems are Hurting Vulnerable Job Seekers (March 2022) (with M. Henry-Nickie and A. Barr). Brookings Institution. [\(link\)](#)

Ahead of the State of the Union, a Biden To-Do List for 2022 (February 2022) (with A. Perry, M. Henry-Nickie, and A. Barr). Brookings Institution. [\(link\)](#)

How Devalued are Homes in NFL Teams' Metro Areas? (February 2022) (with A. Perry and A. Barr). Brookings Institution. [\(link\)](#)

## PREVIOUS POSITIONS

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### **Brookings Institution**

Washington, DC

Senior Research Associate, Metropolitan Program

2022

Visiting Research Scholar, Governance Studies

2021–2022

- Co-led the [Inclusive Opportunity Project](#), a mixed-methods, multi-site study of five rural minority communities, designed and executed end to end—administrative data analysis paired with stakeholder field interviews
- Authored six policy reports and six commentaries; presented findings to policymakers, federal partners, and community members
- Contributed to federal and foundation grant proposals on labor markets and workforce development

### **American University**

Washington, DC

Research Assistant, Economics Department

2019–2020

Program Assistant, Program on Gender Analysis in Economics

2017–2018

### **World Bank**

Washington, DC

Consultant, Gender Innovation Lab

2016–2017

### **Results for Development Institute**

Washington, DC

Consultant

2016–2017

### **Institute for Quantitative Theory and Methods**

Atlanta, GA

Undergraduate Fellow

2013–2014

### **Institute for Industrial Economics & Trade**

Seoul, South Korea

Intern

2012

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### **Northwestern University**

Health Economics and Policy (graduate; three offerings)

2023–2025

### **American University**

## FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

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Presidential Management Fellows Program Finalist	2023
Global Studies International Award for Excellence	2021
Fred and Barbara Bergmann Dissertation Award	2021
American University Full Tuition and Graduate Assistantship	2017–2021
Georgetown University Full Tuition and Graduate Fellowship	2014–2015
Emory University Undergraduate Honors Program, Dean's Lists	2010–2014

## PRESENTATIONS

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### **2026 Association for Education Finance & Policy 51st Annual Conference**

*The Impact of WIOA on Education and Labor Market Outcomes for Youth with Disabilities: Evidence from National and Administrative Data.* Chicago, IL.

### **Southern Economic Association 95th Annual Conference**

*Minimum Wage Increases and Labor Market Outcomes for People with Disabilities.* Tampa, FL.

### **International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities 2024 Conference**

*Global Evaluation of the Special Olympics Unified Champions School Program in Six Countries.* Chicago, IL.

### **Allied Social Science Associations 2022 Virtual Annual Meeting**

*Paid Family Leave and Unpaid Eldercare.* American Economic Association Poster Session.

### **47th Eastern Economic Association Annual Conference**

*Effects of Paid Family Leave on Unpaid Eldercare Providers' Labor and Health Outcomes.* Virtual.

### **Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management 2021 Student Research Online Seminar Series**

*Effects of Paid Family Leave on Family Caregivers' Labor and Health Outcomes.* Virtual.

## SERVICE & AFFILIATIONS

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Reviewer, *Educational Studies*; *Applied Economics*.

Co-coordinator, Pathways to Gender Equality conference, American University.

Member, American Economic Association (AEA); Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management (AP-PAM); International Association for Feminist Economics (IAFFE).

## ADVISING

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### **Northwestern University**

Academic advisor for 20 students in the Master's of Science in Social and Economic Policy program, 2024–2026.

## SKILLS

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**Software:** Stata, R, Python, Excel, PowerPoint, Word, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

**Languages:** English (native), Korean (native), Mandarin (intermediate)

**Hobbies:** Registered yoga instructor (RYT-200)