

PROPOSAL: “UNDERSTANDING THE LONG-TERM IMPACT OF MEDICAID”

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Medicaid, the United States health insurance program for the poor, was established in 1965. Because of data limitations involved in finding institutional details about the early years of the program and following up on enrolled individuals almost 50 years later, very little is known about the long-term impact of Medicaid. As part of an ongoing series of research projects on the long-term impact of Medicaid, I would like a research assistant to help me to collect data on Medicaid eligibility, health insurance coverage, and health spending across states and time. The data collection effort includes library research, preparation of data access applications, a small amount of data entry, and data cleaning in Stata. Depending on progress, we will likely proceed to graphs and regressions. Candidates should have a basic familiarity with Stata and an interest in learning more independently.

The first paper in this series of research projects on Medicaid was released this year. It built on the work of several former SRO and Tobin Research Assistants. You can read more about it here: <http://www.nytimes.com/2015/01/13/upshot/how-medicaid-for-children-recoups-much-of-its-cost-in-the-long-run.html?rref=upshot&r=0>
<http://www.econ.yale.edu/~ak669/medicaid.latest.draft.pdf>

The research assistant will sit in a shared office in the ISPS building at Yale with full-time research assistants and graduate students working on other health economics projects. The research assistant will also have the opportunity to learn about and potentially participate in those projects, depending on progress on the main project. To facilitate interactions with other research assistants, I expect the research assistant to work during regular business hours for approximately 20 hours per week from June 1 to August 1, with the potential to work longer and for more hours with additional compensation.