The Returns to Specific Graduate Degrees

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Proposal Description:

The project involves the use of National Science Foundation data and the Texas School Project data to study the economic value of graduate education. The specific questions include:

a. What are the labor-market returns to specific graduate degrees, such as an MBA or a JD?
b. How does the labor market return to graduate degrees depend on a student’s college major?
c. Does the labor market return to a particular graduate degree depend on the student’s characteristics and socioeconomic background?
d. How does the labor market return to undergraduate and graduate degrees depend on the quality of the undergraduate and graduate institution and program?
e. How do graduate degrees affect individuals at different stages of their career?
f. How does the labor market return to graduate degrees depend on the student’s industry of employment prior to graduate school?
g. The contribution of gender differences in college major and graduate degree type to long term trends in the gender gap in earnings.

The student will assemble information on trends in undergraduate and graduate degrees, perform statistical analyses and create graphs and figures, and perform literature reviews.

Requisite Skills and Qualifications:

Prior computing experience and a course or courses in statistical computing and econometrics will be extremely valuable. Please provide a CV, and unofficial transcript, and a list courses that you will be taking this term.

Tobin Application Link: Tobin Application

Project Type: Tobin RA

Project Year: 2021

Term: Fall 2021

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