

Francisca Alba

Department of Economics, Michigan State University
486 W. Circle Drive
East Lansing, MI 48824

falba@msu.edu
(561) 860-7633
www.franciscaalba.com

EDUCATION	Ph.D., Economics, Michigan State University	Expected 2027
	M.A., Economics, Michigan State University	2023
	M.P.P., (Social Policy), George Washington University	2018
	B.A., Economics and Sociology, University of Edinburgh	2010
FIELDS	Public Economics, Behavioral Economics	
REFERENCES	Benjamin Bushong (Co-Chair) Department of Economics Michigan State University bbushong@msu.edu	Stacy Dickert-Conlin (Co-Chair) Department of Economics Michigan State University dickertc@msu.edu
	Leslie Papke Department of Economics Michigan State University papke@msu.edu	
JOB MARKET PAPER	“Misperceived Benefits and Tax-Filing Decisions Among Low-Income Workers”	
WORK IN PROGRESS	“Information, Beliefs, and Filing-Method Choices of Low-Income Taxpayers” (with Benjamin Bushong) <i>Fieldwork begins January 2027</i>	
GRANTS	Russell Sage Foundation & Washington Center for Equitable Growth (co-PI with Benjamin Bushong; 2026–2027)	\$15,000
	Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy (2026–2027)	\$10,000
	Michigan Applied Public Policy Research Program (co-PI with Benjamin Bushong; 2023–2024)	\$30,000
POLICY PUBLICATIONS	“ The Relationship Between School Closures and Female Labor Force Participation During the Pandemic ” (with Stephanie Aaronson). Brookings Institution.	2021
	“ Unemployment Among Young Workers During COVID-19 ” (with Stephanie Aaronson). Brookings Institution.	2020
	“ The Unemployment Impacts of COVID-19: Lessons from the Great Recession ” (with Stephanie Aaronson). Brookings Institution.	2020
	“ Robust and Equitable Measures to Identify Quality Schools ” (with Theresa Anderson, David C. Blount, Constance A. Lindsay, Erica Blom, and Semhar Gebrekristos). Urban Institute.	2019

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS	College of Social Science Early Start Fellowship, MSU	2021–2025
	Academic Achievement Graduate Assistantship, MSU	2021–2022
	Sar and Britta Levitan Endowment Scholarship, GWU	2017–2018
PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS	National Tax Association (NTA) Annual Conference (scheduled);	2026
	MSU Grand River Conference; Michigan Economic Impact Coalition (MEIC)	
	NTA Annual Conference; MSU Red Cedar Conference	2024
	NTA Annual Conference (poster); CSWEP Mentoring Workshop; Behavioral Public Economics Bootcamp (invited participant)	2023
TEACHING	<i>Interim Instructor, Michigan State University</i>	
	Introduction to Microeconomics	Fall 2025
	<i>Teaching Assistant, Michigan State University</i>	
	Advanced Microeconomics	Spring 2026
	Intermediate Microeconomics	Spring 2026
	Public Revenues	Fall 2025
	Behavioral Economics (two semesters)	2024–2025
	Introduction to Microeconomics (four semesters)	2023–2025
	<i>Teaching Assistant, George Washington University</i>	
RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	Econometrics II (Ph.D.)	2019
	Research Methods and Applied Statistics (two semesters)	2017–2018
	Research Assistant to Benjamin Bushong, MSU	2022–2023
	Research Analyst to Stephanie Aaronson, Brookings Institution	2018–2021
SERVICE	Research Intern, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities	2018
	Academic Intern, Urban Institute	2017
	Committee on Institutional Access, MSU Economics	2023–2025
	Graduate Instruction Committee, MSU Economics	2023–2024
SKILLS	Executive Council, MSU Economics Graduate Student Org.	2023–2024
	Graduate Student Mentor, MSU Economics	2023–2024
	Mentor, GWU Women’s Leadership Program	2022
CITIZENSHIP	Computing: Stata, R, L ^A T _E X	
	Languages: English (native), Spanish (fluent)	

Last updated: September 2026