



The PhD Job Market

Spring Meeting

Important Webpages

- **SES Job Market Guide:**
<http://ses.wsu.edu/graduatestudies/phdprograms/jobmarketguide/>
- **AEA Job Openings for Economists (JOE):** <http://www.aeaweb.org/joe/>
and create your profile: <https://www.aeaweb.org/joe/candidate>
and AEA JM committee: <https://www.aeaweb.org/joe/communications>
and AEA job-market info: <https://www.aeaweb.org/econtrack>
and John Cawley's JM guide:
<https://www.aeaweb.org/content/file?id=869>
- **AAEA Job Board:** <https://www.aaea.org/employmentopps>
- **EconJobMarket:** <https://econjobmarket.org/>
- **European Economic Association:** <https://www.eeassoc.org/job-market>
- **China Job Market:** <http://www.cicecon.org.cn/>

JM advice

- Jen Doleac has all kinds of great resources for those on the market: <http://jenniferdoleac.com/resources/>
- More resources: <https://sites.google.com/site/pfeiferecon/job-market-resources>
- Tech-industry jobs advice for economists: <https://scarlet-chen.medium.com/tech-industry-jobs-for-econ-phds-54a276dda80b>
- How to stop worrying and love the job market (Sarah Jacobson): <https://www.jstor.org/stable/26160563>

Timeline of process

- Spring prior to market:
 - Consider submitting and presenting a strong paper (not necessarily your job market paper) at conferences.
 - Identify potential letter writers (usually committee members plus another faculty that can credibly discuss your teaching).
 - Ensure at least one letter writer has observed you teach and can credibly write on your classroom ability.
 - Begin discussing with your advisor and committee what jobs you want to target, where you will be competitive, how to sell yourself

Timeline of process

- Summer:
 - Finish job-market paper
 - Create a webpage and post papers when they are ready
 - Work on other dissertation chapters
 - Practice presenting your JM paper (conference, classmates)
 - Schedule a department seminar for fall
 - Begin drafting application materials/CV

Timeline of process

- Early Fall:
 - Continue fine-tuning JM paper
 - Finish the rest of your “packet:”
 - Cover letter(s)
 - CV
 - At least 3 Reference letters:
 - Provide JM paper when you request recommendation letter
 - Make sure at least one letter is heavily focused on teaching
 - Transcripts
 - Research statement/short summary of dissertation papers
 - Teaching statement
 - Present in the department seminar series

Timeline of process

- Fall (early October onward):
 - Apply to jobs (customize applications with cover letter, etc. to the extent possible)
 - Practice interviewing (department will help with a couple of mock interviews)
- Early Winter-Spring:
 - Interviews (for academic jobs, typically right before or after the ASSA meetings, but first-round interviews are almost all virtual now)
 - Flyouts

Important Note

- You are responsible for building your CV to make yourself attractive to potential employers
- You are responsible for giving your letter writers enough notice to write a strong letter
- You are responsible for applying and getting a job when the time comes
- Role of your advisor: help guide in building your CV
- Our role: Make you aware of the process and get you to start planning early (I will review your CV, research statement, and a sample cover letter in the fall)

Type of Jobs

- Non-academic
 - Consulting
 - Government agencies – Federal and State
 - Private Companies
 - International Organizations
- Academic
 - Post doctoral position
 - Research position
 - Teaching position
 - Extension position

Applying for Jobs

- For some non-academic jobs: Send applications directly to different institutions throughout the year
- For academic jobs and some non-academic jobs: Go on the Job Market starting in Fall and submit applications through JOE, Econjobmarket, and other clearing sites

Your Competition

The average student will have:

- Three papers, one of which is the job market paper
- Three references, including one that extensively covers observations of teaching.
- Conference poster or presentation
- TA and RA experience

How to Separate Yourself from the Pack

- Present at conference(s): More selective and more general conferences the better.
- Instructor experience: Strong teaching evaluations, both in person and online experience, good teaching observations.
- Publications (establishing a research pipeline)

Opportunities for Foreigners in the US

Note: there are a lot of opportunities outside the US as well

- Academic Universities – especially research universities
- Large international institutions – WB, IMF, IFPRI
- Large international companies – Amazon, Google, CapitalOne, Ernst&Young

Note: usually large organizations are able to sponsor H1 visas

Opportunities Overseas

- Academic universities, European Union:
 - Especially research universities
 - Low teaching loads
 - Several free services
 - Only require English before tenure (you will be teaching graduate-level courses or a section of their BA which is entirely in English)
 - Experience helping you with work visa (several faculty from Asia with PhD degrees from US/Canada).
- Academic universities in Asia, Latin Am., Middle East
 - Larger teaching loads, may require some basic language
- Industry and organizations

What is next?

- **Meet at the beginning of fall semester (for those who plan on but are not necessarily 100% entering the job market):**
 - Talk to your advisor
 - Get a department seminar scheduled
 - Work, work, work on your papers, especially your JM paper!