

Christopher T. Bennett

Department of Leadership, Policy, and Organizations
Vanderbilt University, Peabody College
chris.bennett@vanderbilt.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Leadership and Policy Studies (Higher Education) 2021 (exp.)
Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

A.B. in Public Policy & American Institutions 2008
Brown University, Providence, RI

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Higher education policy, college access, stratification & inequality, graduate education

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

Graduate Research Assistant to Matthew Shaw 2019-20
Graduate Research Assistant to Angela Boatman 2016-19

RTI International, Research Triangle Park, NC 2008-16
Research Education Analyst

Brown University, Providence, RI 2007
Research Assistant to Martin West

HONORS AND AWARDS

National Academy of Education/Spencer Dissertation Fellowship 2020-21
Peabody Dean's Fellowship 2018-21
University Graduate Fellowship 2016-21
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) NNEMS Fellowship 2007

PUBLICATIONS

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Bennett, C. T. (Forthcoming). Untested admissions: Changes in application behaviors and student demographics under test-optional policies. *American Educational Research Journal*.

Kane, T. J., Boatman, A. R., Kozakowski, W., **Bennett, C. T.**, Hitch, R., & Weisenfeld, D. (Forthcoming). Is college remediation a barrier or a boost? Evidence from the Tennessee SAILS program. *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*. [Link](#).

Bennett, C. T., Evans, B. J., & Marsicano, C. R. (2020). Taken for granted? Effects of loan-reduction initiatives on student borrowing, admission metrics, and campus diversity. *Research in Higher Education*. [Link](#).

Boatman, A. R., & **Bennett, C. T.** (2020). A switch in time: The academic effects of shifting math remediation from college to high school. *Education Finance and Policy*. [Link](#).

JOURNAL ARTICLES UNDER REVIEW

Ecton, W. G., **Bennett, C. T.**, Nienhuser, H. K., Castillo-Montoya, M., & Dougherty, S. M. (Conditionally accepted, *AERA Open*). If you fund them, will they come?: Findings from a Ph.D. student fellowship program.

TECHNICAL REPORTS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Kane, T. J., Boatman, A. R., Kozakowski, W., **Bennett, C. T.**, Hitch, R., & Weisenfeld, D. (2020). Is college remediation a barrier or a boost? Evidence from Tennessee. *Education Next*, 20(2), 64-71. [Link](#).

Cataldi, E. F., **Bennett, C. T.**, & Chen, X. (2018). First-generation students: College access, persistence, and postbachelor's outcomes (NCES 2018-421). National Center for Education Statistics. [Link](#).

Kane, T. J., Boatman, A. R., Kozakowski, W., **Bennett, C. T.**, Hitch, R., & Weisenfeld, D. (2018). Remedial math goes to high school: An evaluation of the Tennessee SAILS program. Research Report. Cambridge, MA: Center for Education Policy Research, Harvard University. [Link](#).

Wine, J., Janson, N., Siegel, P., & **Bennett, C. T.** (2013). 2008/09 Baccalaureate and Beyond Longitudinal Study (B&B:08/09) full-scale methodology report (NCES 2014-041). National Center for Education Statistics. [Link](#).

WORKING PAPERS

Bennett, C. T. Master's for hire: Experimental evidence on employers' perceptions of master's degrees from for-profit institutions.

Bennett, C. T. Back to the books: Predictors of graduate enrollment for Great Recession-era bachelor's recipients.

Bennett, C. T. On the tenuous track: Contingent faculty unionization at private, nonprofit institutions.

Bennett, C. T. Institutional expenditures and economic mobility for college students from low-income backgrounds.

PRESENTATIONS

Bennett, C. T. (2021, March). Master's for hire: Experimental evidence on employers' perceptions of master's degrees from for-profit institutions. Paper scheduled to be presented virtually at the annual conference of the Association for Education Finance and Policy.

Bennett, C. T. (2021, February). Master's for hire: Experimental evidence on employers' perceptions of master's degrees from for-profit institutions. Paper scheduled to be presented virtually at the annual conference of the Sociology of Education Association.

Bennett, C. T. (2020, November). Back to the books: Predictors of graduate enrollment for Great Recession-era bachelor's recipients. Paper presented virtually at the annual conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, New Orleans, LA.

Ecton, W., **Bennett, C. T.**, Castillo-Montoya, M., Dougherty, S. M., & Nienhusser, H. K. (2020, November). If you fund them, will they come?: Findings from a graduate student fellowship program. Paper presented virtually at the annual conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, New Orleans, LA.

- Bennett, C. T.** (2020, November). Untested admissions: Effects of test-optional policies on undergraduate applications and student body composition. Paper presented virtually at the fall research conference of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Washington, DC.
- Bennett, C. T.** (2020, April). Perceptions of MBA degrees from for-profit universities: Evidence from a survey experiment. Paper scheduled to be presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Francisco, CA. [Conference cancelled.]
- Ecton, W., **Bennett, C. T.**, Castillo-Montoya, M., Dougherty, S. M., & Nienhuser, H. K. (2020, April). If you fund them, will they come?: Findings from a graduate student fellowship program. Paper scheduled to be presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Francisco, CA. [Conference cancelled.]
- Bennett, C. T.** (2020, March). Untested admissions: Effects of test-optional policies on undergraduate applications and student body composition. Paper presented virtually at the annual conference of the Association for Education Finance and Policy, Fort Worth, TX.
- Bennett, C. T.** (2019, November). Untested admissions: Effects of test-optional policies on undergraduate applications and student body composition. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Portland, OR.
- Bennett, C. T.**, Evans, B. J., & Marsicano, C. R. (2019, April). Taken for granted?: Effects of loan-reduction initiatives on student borrowing, application behaviors, and campus diversity. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Toronto, ON.
- Bennett, C. T.** (2019, April). Untested admissions: Effects of test-optional policies on undergraduate selectivity and diversity. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Toronto, ON.
- Bennett, C. T.**, Evans, B. J., & Marsicano, C. R. (2019, March). Taken for granted?: Effects of loan-reduction initiatives on student borrowing, application behaviors, and campus diversity. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Association for Education Finance and Policy, Kansas City, MO.
- Bennett, C. T.** (2018, November). On the tenuous track: Contingent faculty unionization at private, nonprofit institutions. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Tampa, FL.
- Bennett, C. T.** (2018, March). Institutional expenditures and economic mobility for college students from low-income backgrounds. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Association for Education Finance and Policy, Portland, OR.
- Kozakowski, W., **Bennett, C. T.**, Boatman, A. R., & Kane, T. J. (2018, March). Pre-college math remediation programs in Tennessee. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Association for Education Finance and Policy, Portland, OR.
- Boatman, A. R. & **Bennett, C. T.** (2017, November). Examining the effects of a statewide high school math remediation course: Evidence from Tennessee's SAILS program. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Houston, TX.

Bennett, C. T. & Arbeit, C. (2017, November). Growth from abroad: Women in U.S. STEM graduate programs, 2004-2014. Poster presented at the annual conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Houston, TX.

Boatman, A. R. & **Bennett, C. T.** (2017, November). Examining the causal effects of early intervention in developmental education: Evidence from Tennessee's SAILS program. Paper presented at the fall research conference of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Chicago, IL.

Bennett, C. T. & Arbeit, C. (2017, April). Growth from abroad: Women in U.S. science and engineering graduate programs, 2004-14. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Antonio, TX.

Einaudi, P. B., **Bennett, C. T.**, & Phou, K. (2016, March). NSF Early Career Doctorates Survey (ECDS): Preliminary findings from the pilot survey. Invited town hall presentation at the annual meeting of the National Postdoctoral Association, Grand Rapids, MI.

Cominole, M. B., **Bennett, C. T.**, & Caves, L. R. (2013, May). Building a history: Collecting comprehensive employment data in a web-based, multimode survey. Paper presented at the American Association for Public Opinion Research annual conference, Boston, MA.

Janson, N., **Bennett, C. T.**, Caves, L. R., Cominole, M. B., Shepherd, B. C., & Wine, J. S. (2013, May). Can embedded help text links in web survey items improve data quality? Paper presented at the American Association for Public Opinion Research annual conference, Boston, MA.

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

U.S. EPA Region 2, New York, NY <i>Public Affairs Fellow</i>	2007
Quest Scholars Program (precursor to QuestBridge), Stanford, CA <i>Academic Curriculum Counselor</i>	2004 & 2005
U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC <i>Congressional Intern for David Price (NC-04)</i>	2005

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

ASSOCIATION FOR EDUCATION FINANCE AND POLICY

Graduate student member of the AEFPP Membership and Outreach Committee (2018-19)

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

Admissions Co-Representative, Department of Leadership, Policy, and Organizations (2019)

AD HOC REVIEWER

educational policy analysis archives (2019)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Educational Research Association (AERA)
 Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP)
 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM)
 Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE)

SKILLS

Stata (advanced)

SAS (advanced)

Qualtrics (advanced)

R (beginner)