# AMANDA PALLAIS

Department of Economics
Harvard University
Littauer Center
Cambridge, MA 02138

Office: (617) 495-2151
Cell: (804) 389-5050
apallais@fas.harvard.edu

## Employment

2016 – Paul Sack Associate Professor of Political Economy and Social Studies, Harvard University
2015 –2016 Associate Professor of Economics and Social Studies, Harvard University
2011 –2015 Assistant Professor of Economics and Social Studies, Harvard University

## Visiting Positions

2014 Visitor, Yale Program in Applied Economics and Policy Research
2014 Visiting Fellow, Initiative on Global Markets (IGM), Chicago Booth
2013 –2014 Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics, Princeton University

## Affiliations

2014 – Affiliate, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)
2012 – Faculty Research Fellow, NBER
2011 – Faculty Affiliate, MIT School Effectiveness and Inequality Initiative (SEII)

## Education

2006 – 2011 Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Ph.D. in Economics
2002 – 2006 University of Virginia, B.A. with Highest Distinction, Economics and Mathematics

## Fields of Interest

Labor Economics, Economics of Education

## Research Grants

2015 NSF CAREER Award: “Using Field Experiments to Identify Barriers to Labor Market Success and Human Capital Accumulation”, $450,850
2015 Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation, “Randomized Evaluation of Post-Secondary Financial Aid Services” (with Joshua Angrist and David Autor), $1,790,877
2014 J-PAL Post Primary Education Initiative, “Improving Employment Prospects of Indian College Graduates through Standardized Testing: A Pilot Evaluation” (with David Autor), $29,614
2012 Lab for Economic Applications and Policy, "Referential Treatment: Why Referrals Matter" (with Emily Sands), $10,000

2011 Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation, “Impact Evaluation of the Susan Thompson Buffett Scholarship Program” (with Joshua Angrist and David Autor), $1,307,468

2010 Government of France, Large Research Grant for Experiments Involving Youth (received high-quality project citation, with William Pariente), $376,121

**Fellowships and Honors**

2015 Clark Award, Harvard University
2015 Excellence in Refereeing Award, *American Economic Review*
2014 – 2017 Furer Fellow, Harvard University
2014 Empirical Microeconomics Jamboree, Duke University (selected participant)
2012 Excellence in Refereeing Award, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*
2011 Robert M. Solow Prize for excellence in research and teaching, MIT
2006 – 2009 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship
2006 – 2008 Presidential Fellow, MIT
2008 – 2010 George and Obie Shultz Fund Grants
2006 Economics Outstanding Major Award, University of Virginia
2006 Best Economics Thesis, University of Virginia
2005 Phi Beta Kappa (junior year)
2002 – 2006 Jefferson Scholar, University of Virginia

**Teaching**

Graduate Labor Economics, Harvard University
Undergraduate Economics of Education, Harvard University

**Publications**

"Why the Referential Treatment?: Evidence from Field Experiments on Referrals" with Emily Sands. *Journal of Political Economy*, forthcoming.

“Evaluating Econometric Evaluations of Post-Secondary Aid” with Joshua Angrist, David Autor, and Sally Hudson *American Economic Review: Papers and Proceedings.* 2015. 105(5): 502-507.

“Small Differences that Matter: Mistakes in Applying to College” *Journal of Labor Economics*. 2015. 33(2): 493-520.
NBER Working Paper #19480

“Inefficient Hiring in Entry-Level Labor Markets” *American Economic Review* 2014. 104(11): 3565-3599.
NBER Working Paper #18917

“Taking a Chance on College: Is the Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship Program a Winner?” *Journal of Human Resources*. 2009. 44(1): 199-222.

"Access to Elites" with Sarah Turner in *Economic Inequality and Higher Education, Access, Persistence, and Success*, edited by Stacy Dickert-Conlin and Ross Rubenstein. 2007: 128-156. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

"Opportunities for Low Income Students at Top Colleges and Universities: Policy Initiatives and the Distribution of Students," with Sarah Turner. *National Tax Journal*. 2006. 59 (2): 357-386 (with Sarah Turner).

**Working Papers**

"Discrimination as a Self-Fulfilling Prophecy: Evidence from French Grocery Stores" with Dylan Glover and William Pariente. (Revise and Resubmit, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*).

"Leveling Up: Early Results from a Randomized Evaluation of Post-Secondary Aid" with Joshua Angrist, David Autor, and Sally Hudson.
NBER Working Paper #20800.

"Can MOOCs Increase Access to Education?: Evidence from a Large New Computer Science Degree Program" with Joshua Goodman and Julia Melkers.

**Other Articles**

"'The Missing 'One-Offs': The Hidden Supply of High-Achieving, Low Income Students': Comments and Discussion." *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*. Spring 2013. pp. 51-56.

**Presentations**

2016: (includes scheduled) Brown University, NBER Summer Institute: Joint Labor Studies and Personnel Session, NBER Summer Institute: Development Economics (discussant)

2015: Allied Social Science Association, Berkeley Haas School of Business, London School of Economics, NBER Organizational Economics (discussant), Paris School of Economics, Stanford CEPA, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, University of California – Santa Barbara, University of Virginia (Merrick Lecture)

2014: Allied Social Science Association, Booth School, Brookings, Columbia University, Duke Empirical Microeconomics Jamboree, Harvard University, Institute for International Economic Studies Stockholm University, MIT, NBER Summer Institute: Economics of IT and Digitization (discussant), NBER Summer Institute: Joint Education and Labor Studies Session, University of Chicago, Yale University

2013 : Allied Social Science Association (discussant), Brookings Papers on Economic Activity (discussant), Harvard University, Kellogg School, NBER Labor Markets After the Great Recession (discussant), NBER Summer Institute: Labor Studies, NBER-CCER Conference on China and the World Economy, New York Federal Reserve, Princeton University, RAND Corporation, University of British Columbia, University of California--Berkeley, Wharton School

2012: Boston College, Future of Children Conference (discussant), Northeastern

University, Rutgers University, Yale University,
2011: Booth School, Boston University, Columbia University, Cornell University (ILR), Harvard University, Michigan State University, Princeton University, Stanford University, University of California – Irvine, University of California – San Diego, Wharton School, University of Chicago (Economics)
2010: Allied Social Science Association (discussant), Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (session chair), MIT, University of Virginia
2009: Allied Social Science Association, Society of Labor Economists
2008: NBER Higher Education Working Group
2006: European Science Days (poster presentation)
2005: Southern Economics Association

**Referee**

*American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Economic Review, B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy, Eastern Economic Journal, Econometrica, Economica, Economic Inquiry, Economics of Education Review, Education Finance & Policy, Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis, International Journal of Industrial Organization, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Urban Economics, Management Science, National Tax Journal, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Studies, Review of Economics and Statistics, Southern Economic Journal*

**Committees**

Harvard Athletics Committee, Harvard Economics Department Graduate Instruction Committee, Harvard Economics Department Graduate Admissions Committee, Harvard Economics Department Graduate Recruiting Committee, Harvard Economics Department Junior Hiring Committee, Harvard Social Studies Concentration Junior Hiring Committee, Harvard Social Studies Concentration Standing Committee, Lab for Economic Analysis and Policy Executive Committee, Society of Labor Economists Program Committee