Position Overview:

We, Professors Simon Jäger (MIT) and Benjamin Schoefer (UC Berkeley), are looking to hire two outstanding and motivated pre-doctoral research associates. The full-time positions will be based in the MIT Economics Department in Cambridge, MA. Duration is one or two years, starting in the summer of 2020.

The positions are ideally suited for candidates planning to attend graduate school in economics.

The research associates will be fully integrated into the research community and are encouraged to attend the weekly applied microeconomics seminar at MIT.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities (Essential Functions**):

The focus will be policy-oriented and data-intensive research on micro-mechanisms underlying the behavior of aggregate labor markets and the role of institutions in:

- wage setting and labor income inequality,
- the determinants of unemployment, and
- job mobility.

Other duties as needed or required.

This level requires a high level of independent judgement. Deals with confidential information and/or issues using discretion and judgement.

Supervision Received:

The Technical Associate I reports to Professor Simon Jaeger. Position requires minimal supervision.

Supervision Exercised:

No direct reports.

Qualifications & Skills:

REQUIRED:

Education: A minimum of a bachelor’s degree in economics, computer science, mathematics, statistics or a related field.

Experience: Minimum 2 years’ specialized research experience in economics (which may include experience gained as an undergraduate).
PREFERRED:

The ideal candidates will have (i) boundless enthusiasm for empirical research incl. handling and analyzing large data sets, (ii) strong coding skills, and (iii) the ability to independently and diligently solve challenging problems. Proven ability to anticipate, plan, prioritize, and meet tight deadlines; demonstrated ability to efficiently organize and manage a high volume of work; ability to self-manage a time-sensitive workflow while maintaining high quality output and accuracy with details.

To Apply

I. Please submit your application via MIT Human Resources system. Visit careers.mit.edu, search for job ID 18471 and complete an application. Please include in one PDF document:
   - Cover letter (details below)
   - Resume

II. Email the following documents to Jaeger.Schoefer.team@gmail.com.
   - Cover letter explaining
     - Your motivation for pursuing the position
     - Your earliest start date
     - Your US work permit/visa situation
     - Your Stata background (courses, previous RA work)
     - Any other programming languages or statistical packages you are proficient in
     - Previous research experience in particular any experience handling and analyzing large data sets
   - CV
   - Unofficial transcript(s) of all previous coursework
   - Optional: reference letters from faculty (ideally in economics) or contacts of references
   - Optional but encouraged: Writing sample (e.g., thesis, memos you wrote as an RA elsewhere)

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis but all applications submitted by February 1st, 2020, will be given full consideration. Shortlisted applicants will be asked to participate in an interview and a coding exercise. We will only notify short-listed applicants. This is a temporary position, subject to funding.

Questions and potential references can be sent to: Jaeger.Schoefer.team@gmail.com

** To comply with regulations by the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), the principal duties in job descriptions must be essential to the job. To identify essential functions, focus on the purpose and the result of the duties rather than the manner in which they are performed. The following definition applies: a job function is essential if removal of that function would fundamentally change the job.