Each year, EDE participants are selected through a highly competitive process to engage in a three-week summer institute designed to build skills through daily lectures and other activities to inspire learning and promote networking. With exposure to more than 20 UChicago faculty and outside speakers, EDE excites students about the range of opportunities in economics.

For each of the 2021 and 2022 cohorts, BFI received more than 200 applications for approximately 40 slots, with an average matriculation rate of 92% for students accepted into the program. The cohorts averaged a GPA of 3.77 on a 4.0 scale.

Daily course instruction for the Summer Institute focuses on microeconomic inquiry and applied economic analysis taught by UChicago economists from Chicago Booth, the Kenneth C. Griffin Department of Economics, and the Harris School of Public Policy, with daily guest lectures from UChicago faculty and outside guests. Past speakers include Nobel laureates Richard Thaler and James Heckman, former Council of Economics Chair Austan Goolsbee, *Freakonomics* author Steven Levitt, Booth scholar Marianne Bertrand, Northern Trust CFO Jason Tyler, Ariel Investments Chairman John Rogers, and more.

We believe in the importance of socio-economic diversity. Understanding the opportunity cost for students accepted to the EDE Summer Institute, BFI provides a stipend of $1,200. Participants who are Pell Grant recipients receive a stipend of $2,400. BFI covers costs of travel, housing, and group activities for EDE participants for on-campus programming.

“Talent is dispersed widely and this program will bring a wider set of people into economics. We expect that the result will be a deeper understanding of the world that ultimately allows economics to more effectively influence the world.”

**Michael Greenstone**
Milton Friedman Distinguished Service Professor, UChicago; Director, BFI

EDE Summer Institute — By the Numbers
The 2021 and 2022 cohorts included 84 total undergraduate students from 49 institutions worldwide.

- 55% were freshmen and 36% were sophomores when applying
- 72% were female
- 21% self-identified as Latino or Hispanic
- 44% self-identified as Black or African American
- 45% were first-generation college students
- Over 50% were Pell Grant recipients, or have a household income under $20k/year

**The Becker Friedman Institute’s Expanding Diversity in Economics (EDE) Summer Institute** is a first-of-its-kind program launched in 2021 targeting early undergraduate students for exposure to economics. Our goal is to diversify the pool of students majoring in economics, who may go on to a graduate program of study or a career drawing on this important skill set.
Building a Network
Upon completion of the Summer Institute, participants become part of the broader EDE alumni network. This network provides ongoing opportunities to engage in research, peer mentoring, and career development.

UChicago Research Assistant Program
The Research Assistant (RA) Program is one opportunity for EDE alumni to enhance their skills and experience, and prepare them for graduate work in economics.

In 2022, 14 inaugural cohort alumni were selected for paid research assistant positions with UChicago faculty.

“The problem is pretty clear: Economics tends to be dominated by white men. That makes it exclusive, to the detriment of both society and the profession. ... The world would be a much better place if we welcomed everyone to economics with open arms. When I heard about this new initiative from BFI, I was all in.”

John List
Kenneth C. Griffin Distinguished Service Professor in Economics and the College, UChicago; EDE Faculty

EDE Participant Reflections

“EDE exceeded [my] expectations... I especially liked that I had access to exceptional UChicago faculty and speakers who were happy to talk about their work and the economics PhD process. I would strongly encourage any undergraduate interested in economics to apply.”

Chukwuka Odigbo
2022 EDE Participant; Dartmouth College

“I have participated in various programs tailored to help me on my journey to obtain a degree in economics [and] no other program has been as pivotal as EDE in confirming my love for Economics and validating that I do want to get my PhD in Economics.”

Yetunde Oshagbemi
2022 EDE Participant; University of Maryland Baltimore County

“EDE changed the way I thought about my career path and the professional opportunities I might have to impact my community. As a current HBCU student, I want to be somewhere [for graduate school] that I feel is an inclusive place, and I’m getting that from UChicago.”

Jasmine Amaniampong
2021 EDE Participant; North Carolina A&T State University

“I felt really included within economics, because usually when I speak to a professor, they don’t come from the same background as me. It was very cool to see that in the program.”

Karen Gracia
2021 EDE Participant; Texas A&M University
### Participant Feedback: 2021 and 2022 Cohorts

*Please note that all survey feedback was submitted anonymously.*

- **100%** of survey respondents said they would strongly recommend or would recommend EDE to their colleagues and friends.
- **100%** said they will take economics classes in the remaining semesters of their college careers.
- **100%** expressed interest in learning more about private sector opportunities leveraging the study of economics.
- **97%** were very satisfied or satisfied with their EDE experience.
- **90%** plan to declare an economics major or minor.
- **85%** plan to conduct economic-related research during their college career.
- **54%** plan to pursue economics graduate study of some form (PhD, MA, MBA, MPP).
- **100%** found the guest speaker presentations very interesting or interesting.
- **84%** said the coursework was above or exceeded their expectations.

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“I absolutely loved the program... I came out with such an appreciation for economics. I made really close friends that I will keep in touch with every day, and I look forward to engaging with future cohorts.”

“This summer program really solidified my future career plans, and now I definitely know that I want to become an economist... The people I met and the topics I learned made my time on campus truly enlightening and fun.”

“This program has made me feel more confident and welcomed within the discipline of economics, and it helped expose me to fields within economics that I never imagined I’d be interested in.”

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**Program Support**

- [Chicago Booth Logo]
- [The University of Chicago Economics Department Logo]
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- [Lumina Foundation Logo]
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**More Information**

For more information, visit [bfi.uchicago.edu/ede](http://bfi.uchicago.edu/ede) or contact [summerecon@uchicago.edu](mailto:summerecon@uchicago.edu).