



HARVARD Kennedy School

TAUBMAN CENTER

for State and Local Government

Economic Development Seminar Information Session

September 18, 2020

AREAS OF FOCUS

& PRIORITIES FOR THE TAUBMAN CENTER



DEVELOP THE NEXT
GENERATION OF
STATE AND LOCAL
GOVERNMENT
LEADERS

GENERATE BIG
IDEAS AND SOLUTIONS
TO STATE AND LOCAL
GOVERNMENT
CHALLENGES

HELP STATE
AND LOCAL
GOVERNMENT
IMPLEMENT AND
SCALE SOLUTIONS



Objectives

The Economic Development Seminar Series seeks to:

- Provide an orientation to the landscape of existing state and local government economic development strategies
 - Provide a space to understand which economic development strategies are (not) working well and why (not)
 - Connect students to economic development experts for advice on pursuing career opportunities
 - Facilitate a community of students and alumni, who are passionate about economic development
 - Expand scholarship for the Taubman Center and future economic development offerings
 - Engage and encourage a diversity of speakers and students in the economic development field
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OPPORTUNITY

- Monthly non-credit seminar for HKS students (incl. joint degree) with leading econ dev thinkers and doers from around the country.
- Cohort of 25-30 students: community of shared interest to learn about and pursue state and local econ dev opportunities, including equitable + inclusive.
- Year-long commitment needed to participate.

FORMAT

- **Breakfast Seminar Sessions** - 7 monthly 90-min Zoom sessions held on a Friday from 9:00-10:30am ET.
- **Speakers + Students social** - conversations and connections held the evening prior to each session.
- **Speaker Office Hours + Mentoring** - post-session 1:1 time with speakers for career advice and connections.

Examples of Previous Speakers and Topics



Tiffany Ferguson, Program Director of The Workers Lab



Stephen Moret, President and CEO of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership



Alejandra Lopez, Director of The City of San Antonio's Economic Development Department



Dell Gines, Senior Community Development Advisor, Omaha Branch-Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City



- ❖ **Economic Development Strategies and Tools** (opportunity zones, taxes, and incentives)
- ❖ **Equitable and Inclusive Economic Development** (procurement procedures, community wealth building)
- ❖ **Workforce Development** (training and industry opportunities)

Participant Expectations



- Attend each seminar session
- Complete pre-readings for each session
- Engage in asynchronous discussions between group sessions

Key Dates

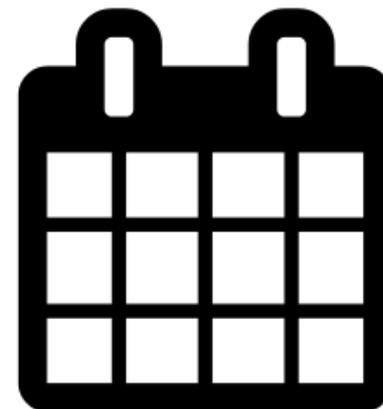
Application Deadline: **Monday, September 21 at 9am**

Notification Confirmation: **Wednesday, September 23 by EOD**

Acceptance Deadline: **Monday, September 28 at 9am**

Friday Breakfast Session Dates: (each 9-10:30am EST)

- **October 9**
- **November 6**
- **December 4**
- **January 29**
- **February 26**
- **April 2**
- **April 30**



Alumni Spotlight



Jihae Lee, MPP '20

Jihae Lee is a Government Innovation Fellow at the Taubman Center supporting the Massachusetts Executive Office of Administration and Finance on strategic economic development. Previously, Jihae worked for the City of Philadelphia where she focused on small business development, commercial corridor revitalization, and effective communication strategies in low-to-moderate income neighborhoods. She also has experience in quantitative and qualitative research, legislation development, and non-profit advocacy. Jihae holds a MPP from the Harvard Kennedy School and a BA in Psychology from the University of Pennsylvania.

Current Student Spotlight



Alexis Farmer, MPP '21

Alexis Farmer is a second-year Master's in Public Policy student, hailing from Detroit, MI. Her upbringing in Detroit shaped her policy areas of interest, which include policing, re-entry, and equitable urban and economic development. Alexis holds a BA in Public Policy from the University of Michigan.

Questions?

FAQs

- *Who is the seminar for?*
- *Do you need to have a background in economic development to join?*
- *How competitive is the application process?*
- *Will the sessions be recorded?*
- *What if I cannot attend every breakfast seminar and evening social?*
- *Does this session focus on domestic or international economic development policies?*
- *What is the time commitment for the pre-reading?*