Eli Powers
powerseli42@gmail.com | www.linkedin.com/in/eli-powers/

EDUCATION

University of Maryland, College Park, MD **September 2024 – Expected May 2028**
GPA: 3.9/4.0 | **Honors:** Semester Academic Honors, Fall 2024 – Spring 2026
Double majoring in Economics (B.S.) and Philosophy, Politics & Economics (PPE); Minor in Business Analytics

Promoting Achievement and Diversity in Economics (PADE) **September 2026 – Present**
Selected for an economics mentoring program, with weekly PhD student meetings to discuss independent research on AI diffusion and productivity, learn Stata, and strengthen Python and econometric skills, alongside mentorship from PhD economists.

EXPERIENCE

New York City Economic Development Corporation | Business Development Intern **July 2026 – August 2026**

- Conducted a six-week life sciences capstone to inform NYCEDC's Business Development strategy.
- Used Excel and Python to analyze funding and market data and build peer comparisons and visualizations.
- Synthesized research into strategic recommendations, incorporated feedback from professional teams, and presented the final strategy to Business Development, Economics Research & Policy, Life Sciences, and the Partnerships division.

Handshake AI | Economics Prompt Engineer / Task Reviewer **March 2026 – June 2026**

- Designed multi-turn conversations targeting reasoning failures in large language models across economics domains including monetary policy, fiscal policy, and macroeconomic theory.
- Audited prompt-response submissions for factual accuracy, reasoning quality, and adherence to project standards; collaborated with engineers iteratively to meet client quality benchmarks.

RESEARCH & PROJECTS

College Fed Challenge – 3rd Place Nationally **September 2026 – November 2026**
University of Maryland | Economics Association of Maryland

- Led the team's inflation analysis for a mock FOMC decision. Examined both supply-driven (energy, tariffs) and demand-driven (AI buildout, consumer spending) inflation, and whether policy could look through the supply side. Evaluated second-round effects and wage-price spiral risk, and projected core inflation through 2027 under different oil-price paths.
- Estimated October PCE inflation ahead of its release, bottom-up: mapped 224 CPI and PPI price components to PCE categories covering 99.7% of spending, and backtested the method against past BEA releases.
- Placed 3rd of 141 schools nationally. Presented the inflation outlook, forecast and policy-stance analysis to judges at the Federal Reserve Board in Washington, D.C., and defended the team's 25 basis point rate-hike in live Q&A.

Changes in the Life Sciences Sector: Implications for New York City **July 2026 – August 2026**
New York City Economic Development Corporation

- Examined how changes in funding, real estate, and emerging AI/ML capabilities affected NYC's life sciences position and opportunities to attract and retain companies.
- Analyzed NIH RePORTER API data across NYC and five peer regions to compare research funding and small-business funding shares; extended PitchBook-based venture capital analysis to compare investment growth, deal-stage composition, and subsector specialization using location quotients.

Measuring AI Diffusion: Implications for Productivity Beyond Aggregate Measures **September 2026 – Present**
Independent Research | In Progress

- Examine how firms and workers adopt and use AI, comparing Census BTOS survey data, the Ramp AI Index, and the Real-Time Population Survey, to explore implications for productivity and employment beyond aggregate statistics such as TFP and labor productivity.

Policy Brief: Preparing U.S. Workers for AI-Driven Task Change and Labor Market Transition **November 2025**
University of Maryland | PLCY100

- Authored a policy memo addressed to the Senate Commerce Committee evaluating federal responses to AI-driven labor market change, synthesizing IMF, ILO, BLS, OECD, and Brookings research; proposed a framework combining employer AI-impact reporting, worker protections, and national skill standards while preserving innovation incentives.

SKILLS

Programming & Analysis: Python, Excel; developing Stata and MATLAB skills
Economic Data Sources: FRED/ALFRED, BEA and BLS data, Census BTOS, Real-Time Population Survey, NIH RePORTER, fDi Markets, PitchBook
AI Coding Tools: Codex, Claude Code