

# Austin Land

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## EDUCATION

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- PhD, Public Policy** | University of California, Berkeley Aug. 2016 – Dec. 2022  
Dissertation: Understanding the Role of Transitional Kindergarten in Supporting School Readiness
- MPP** | University of California, Berkeley Aug. 2014 – May 2016
- BA** | University of Michigan, Ann Arbor Sep. 2003 – Apr. 2008

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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**University of California – Berkeley, EXCEL** · Full-time | Berkeley, CA Dec. 2024 – Present  
*Policy and Evaluation Lead, UPK*

- Coordinate data-driven planning and policy analysis projects aimed at expanding access to high-quality ECE services across Los Angeles County
- Provide early care and education policy analysis and expertise to Los Angeles Department of Education, Department of Public Health, First 5 and other local partners working to advance early learning programs that reflect diverse community needs.
- Conduct ongoing research into the impacts of public investments in early care and education on child development and later learning with an emphasis on the effects of multi-year preschool experiences.

**California Policy Lab** · Full-time | Berkeley, CA Dec. 2022 – Dec. 2024  
*UPK Data & Applied Research Fellow, California Department of Education*

- Investigated the independent and synergistic influences of early care and education programs on children’s developmental trajectories in California.
- Led initiative to advance program monitoring and data-driven decision-making in the California Department of Education’s Early Education Division. Designed and managed processes for integration of data analysis with operations; Developed tools for data analyses and visualization.

**California Department of Education** · Part-time | Remote Sep. 2021 – Dec. 2022  
*Data & Policy Fellow*

- Provided quantitative and policy analysis for Opportunities for All Branch to support the examination of equity needs in early learning with emphasis on CSPP and TK.
- Trained and support staff to plan and perform data analyses and visualization.

**University of California – Berkeley** · Part-time | Berkeley CA Jan. 2022 – May 2022  
*Research Manager, Professor Rucker Johnson*

- Supported study design and implementation, managed team of 3 research assistants.

**University of California – Berkeley** · Part-time | Berkeley CA Jan. 2017 – May 2019  
*Policy Analyst, Early Childhood Think Tank*

- Authored policy briefs and prepared presentations on early care and education policy issues.

**University of the Andes** · Full-time | Bogotá, Colombia June 2015 – Aug. 2015  
*Visiting Research Fellow, Center for Economic Development Studies*

- Investigated determinants of poverty entry and exit using data from the Colombian Longitudinal Survey with a focus on the role of public investments in education.

**Innovations for Poverty Action** · Full-time | Multiple countries July 2012 – July 2014  
*Project Coordinator*

- Managed multiple projects including \$2M evaluation of USAID maternal and child health pilot.
- Directed project operations, planning, budgeting, and grant reporting; team of 60 personnel.
- Earned 3 promotions in 2 years for excellent performance.

**Juvenile Life Without Parole Initiative, ACLU** · Full-time | Ann Arbor, MI May 2011 – June 2012  
*Advocacy Coordinator*

- Organized coalition of advocacy groups for campaign to abolish life sentences for children.
- Authored editorials, legislative advocacy materials, and policy briefs for campaign partners.

**U.S. Peace Corps** · Full-time | Dominica Feb. 2009 – Apr. 2011  
*NGO Development Volunteer*

- Coordinated team of community nurses and teachers to implement maternal and child health project.

## **CONSULTING & CONTRACTING EXPERIENCE**

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**Family Engagement Lab** · Contract | Remote Sep. 2022 – Dec. 2022

- Authored report on statistical analysis of teacher and parent use of FASTalk text messaging platform.

**Oakland Starting Smart & Strong** · Contract | Remote Jan. 2020 – Feb. 2022

- Analyzed policies and programs aimed at expanding developmental screening access
- Integrated, visualized, and analyzed data from organizations conducting developmental screening

**City of Oakland Head Start/Early Head Start** · Contract | Oakland, CA Nov. 2019 – Mar. 2020

- Trained agency leadership and staff on the use of data in program management and implementation.

**City of San Francisco OECE** · Part-time | San Francisco, CA Jan. 2019 – Aug. 2019

- Developed interactive forecasting tools and data integration solutions for budgeting and evaluation

**Inter-American Development Bank** · Contract | Remote Apr. 2016 – Aug. 2017

- Led empirical analysis for impact evaluation of gender-based violence intervention in El Salvador.

**Marin County Health and Human Services** · Contract | Marin, CA Jan. 2016 – May 2016

- Authored policy analysis of options for redesign of Marin County's General Assistance program.

## **SKILLS**

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- *Software:* ArcGIS (intermediate), MS Access (intermediate), R (intermediate), Stata (advanced), SSMS (intermediate), Tableau (intermediate)
- *Language:* Spanish (conversation), French Creole (informal conversation)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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Fuller, B., Bridges, M., & Land, A. (2020). What Policies Advance Infants and Toddlers? Evidence to Inform State and Federal Options. *Social Policy Report*, 33(1), 1-43.

Bando, R., Hidalgo, N., & Land, A. (2019). Education with a Social Focus on Gender Attitudes: Experimental Evidence from Secondary Education in El Salvador. *Journal of Economics, Race, and Policy*, 1-15.

Land, A., & Fuller, B. (2019). Paid Family Leave in California: Serving More Parents with Greater Fairness. Berkeley Early Childhood Think Tank.