

# Econ Job Market Thoughts\*

Lilly Springer

\*Based on my own experience and mostly about the academic market

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# Broad Process (September to March/April)

- Apply (to lots and lots of positions)
- 1<sup>st</sup> round interviews
  - About 20-45 minutes
  - Often on Zoom/Teams now
- Flyout Interviews
  - 1 to 1½ days at the institution
  - Short meetings and meals with faculty/students and job talk
- Offers
- March scramble (if needed)

# Timeline (Before Market)

- May (Before Market)
  - Have a solid draft of your job market paper
- Summer (Before Market)
  - Send job market paper to people to get comments
  - Start writing your job market materials
  - Contact letter of recommendation writers
- August (Before Market)
  - Start gathering job postings
  - Make final edits to JMP and job market materials
  - Follow up with letter writers

# Timeline (Market)

- September onwards
  - Starting applying to jobs
    - Major deadlines are the 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> of the month
  - Continue gathering new postings
- October/November
  - Apply to jobs/gather new postings
  - Start practicing your job talk
  - Choose places to send AEA JOE signals
  - First round interviews
- December
  - Apply to jobs/gather new postings
  - First round interviews (very rarely flyout interviews)

# Timeline (Market cont.)

- January
  - Apply to jobs/gather new postings
  - First round & flyout interviews
  - Offers extended
- February
  - Apply to jobs/gather new postings
  - First round (less likely) & flyout interviews
  - Offers extended
- March/April
  - Flyout interviews
  - Offers extended
  - Econ job market scramble

# Job Market Documents

## **Need for All/Most Applications:**

- Job Market Paper
- CV
- Cover Letter (1- 1½ pages)
- Research Statement (1-2 pages)
- Teaching Statement (1-2 pages)
- Letters of Recommendation (2-4 letters)

## **May Need for Some Applications:**

- Diversity Statement (1 page)
- Teaching Evaluations/Portfolio
- Transcripts
- Other writing samples (papers)
- Reference List
- Specific prompt response

# Letters of Recommendation

- Probably want to have 3 written and 1 person who could write you one quickly
- Reach out summer before to give person plenty of time
- Provide your CV, job market paper, and info on other papers or teaching to your letter writers
- If possible, try to have each writer focus on different parts of you (research, teaching, etc.)
  - It's really helpful to having a teaching focused letter if you're applying to liberal arts, R2s or business schools

# Applying

## Job Listing Platforms:

- [JOE](#) (AEA platform) - most commonly used
- [Econ Job Market](#) – often jobs outside of US
- [HigherEdJobs](#)
- [Chronicle of Higher Education](#)
- [Academic Jobs Online](#)
- [LinkedIn](#) - industry
- [USA Jobs](#) – federal govt. jobs

## Application Platforms:

- JOE
- [Econ Job Market](#)
- [Interfolio](#)
- University/Company's HR system (often Workday)

# 1<sup>st</sup> Round Interviews

- Pre-Interview
  - Test your Zoom/Teams set up multiple times
  - Have 1 minute summary of your JMP ready
- During Interview
  - They ask questions on research/JMP, teaching, and why you fit/want this specific job
  - Ask them 2-3 questions about things you care about in a job/workplace
- Post Interview
  - Take notes on what you liked/didn't like about the interview/job
  - Send thank you emails the next calendar day

# Flyout Interviews

- Before Flyout
  - Prep a sentence or two on each faculty member
  - Identify existing and new courses you want to teach
  - Develop questions to ask about the job/institution
- During Flyout
  - Be yourself, you've prepped for this
  - Be more casual during meals, but keep it professional
  - If something weird/bad/illegal happens, tell your advisor
- After Flyout
  - Send individual follow up emails to everyone in the department
    - If you didn't meet someone, offer to set up another time to meet virtually

# Offers (Hopefully)

- It can take a while for institutions to make decisions
- Once you get an offer, tell your advisor who will help with next steps
- Don't be afraid to negotiate
  - It's normal and expected
  - Ask for advice from people you know at the institution or who are in a similar position somewhere else (use your network here)
- Celebrate once you're all done!