

HIGHER EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE

Seminar Series



Greg Kienzl,

Visiting Postdoctoral Research Associate &
Visiting Assistant Professor, UIUC

The Impact of Merit-based Scholarship Programs

April 9 (Wednesday)

12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

College of Education Room 242

Refreshments will be served.

This study examines whether merit-based scholarship programs are effective in encouraging students to enroll in postsecondary education. Using national data over a 12 year period, the results suggest that these programs have a significant impact on college participation and an even greater impact on in-state college participation. However, the impact is driven primarily by the states that award in the top quartile of merit-based aid. This finding may prove problematic for states that are exploring merit-based scholarship programs as a means of improving economic competitiveness because they may not have the financial resources to support such programs.