



INSTITUTE
OF SOCIOLOGICAL STUDIES
Faculty of Social Sciences
Charles University



Berkeley Social Welfare

Call for Papers

Cash Transfers and Guaranteed Minimum Income Programs: Research, Evaluation, and Policy

Prague, Czech Republic
September 9-10, 2024

The International Network for Social Policy Teaching and Research, the University of California Berkeley Center for Comparative Welfare State Research, the University of Maryland School of Public Policy, and the Charles University Faculty of Social Sciences, Institute of Sociological Studies are cosponsoring a conference on cash transfers and guaranteed minimum income programs to be held at Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic on September 9th and 10th.

Organizing committee: *Chairs:* Douglas J. Besharov (University of Maryland), Neil Gilbert (University of California, Berkeley), and Martin Potucek (Charles University). *Members:* Chong-Bum An (Policy Evaluation Research Institute), Fernando Burgos (Fundação Getulio Vargas), Douglas M. Call (University of Maryland), Georg Fischer (Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies), Susan Parker (University of Maryland), Laura Peck (MEF Associates), and David Seidenfeld (American Institutes of Research).

Background: In recent years, cash transfers have become a major focus of efforts to reduce poverty. Whether simple (conditional or not) or more substantial (“universal basic income” or “guaranteed minimum income”), the idea is straightforward: To the extent that the problems of the disadvantaged stem from inadequate resources, more disposable income can improve their life prospects, and social cohesion in general.

Projects are worldwide, in advanced, middle-income, and developing economies. Some have been rigorously evaluated, others not. Initial evidence is mixed about their costs and benefits, presumably because they differ in size, clients, programmatic details, context, and evaluation quality.

With programs spreading rapidly, a stronger knowledge and practice base is needed to maximize their effectiveness.

Paper Topics: We invite papers on this topic that (1) Describe and analyze case studies of cash transfer programs and their results; (2) Synthesize what is known about cash transfer programs, from past evaluations, research syntheses, and theory; (3) Identify gaps in knowledge about costs, implementation challenges, and effects on recipient well-being and labor supply; (4) Study the relationship between cash transfers and social services; (5) Describe how to build a stronger and more nuanced evidence base, through additional experiments and evaluations; and (6) Analyze the results and challenges of cash transfer programs in highly vulnerable groups, such as minorities, indigenous people, women victims of domestic violence, people with disabilities, and immigrants and refugees, among others.

Authors interested in having a paper considered for the conference should submit a 250-500-word abstract—no later than **May 30, 2024**—using [this form](#). In the abstract, please indicate whether you could present at the conference. Submissions will be peer reviewed according to standard processes. Authors will be notified by **June 15, 2024** of whether their abstract has been accepted for the conference. The notification will include information on the conference and the deadline for submitting final papers (tentatively, **August 15, 2024**). Conference papers will be circulated approximately two weeks before the conference. Papers should be approximately 15-20 pages long, using American Psychological Association citation format. (We welcome papers based on previous publications, updated as appropriate.)

Possible publications: At the authors' option, papers will be peer reviewed for a possible Oxford University Press *Handbook on Cash Transfers and Guaranteed Minimum Income Programs*. (For an example of a similar OUP Handbook, see <https://global.oup.com/academic/product/the-oxford-handbook-of-family-policy-over-the-life-course-9780197518151?cc=us&lang=en&>.)

In addition, at the authors' option, papers will also be considered for a possible Special Forum of the *American Journal of Evaluation (AJE)*. Of special interest to *AJE* are papers that synthesize across multiple evaluations, advance methods used for assessing program effectiveness, or reflect on implications for evaluation practice. *AJE* is less interested in direct reporting of findings regarding the effectiveness of a single program, policy, or test. Papers may also be considered as general journal contributions or can focus on one or more of the journal's designated sections, including Economic Evaluation; Ethics Values, & Culture; Experimental Methodology; International Developments in Evaluation; Method Note; and Teaching & Learning of Evaluation. More information on the journal and these sections is available here: <https://journals.sagepub.com/home/aje>.

Presenting at the conference is not required to have a paper considered for the OUP Handbook or the Special Forum of *AJE*, and presenting at the conference does not bind authors to submit their papers to either.

Questions regarding your submissions should be directed to Douglas Call of the University of Maryland: dcall1@umd.edu.

Please note that there will be a \$25 registration/submission fee and a \$125 conference registration fee if the paper is accepted, which will include Monday lunch and dinner.