

Leah Awkward-Rich

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EDUCATION

PhD University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI | 2024 (expected)
Social Welfare

B.A. Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH | 2017

Majors: Sociology and Comparative American Studies | *Minor:* Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies

Thesis: “Head Start Works’ But Why? Understanding the Persistence of an American Welfare Program”

Thesis Advisors: Greggor Mattson and Clovis White

High Honors in Sociology

AWARDS

2017 **The Comfort Starr Prize in Sociology**, Oberlin College

2013-17 **National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist**

2013-17 **John F. Oberlin Scholarship Recipient** (*Oberlin College Merit-Based Scholarship*)

EMPLOYMENT

6/2017 - 7/2018 **HighScope Educational Research Foundation**, Ypsilanti, MI.
Research Assistant

10/2013 - 5/2017 **Oberlin Head Start/Eastwood Elementary School**, Oberlin, OH.
America Reads Tutor

6/2015 - 5/2017 **Oberlin College**, Oberlin, OH.
Academic Ambassador

2/2016 - 5/2017 **Oberlin College**, Oberlin, OH.
Peer Support Center Coordinator

6/2016 - 8/2016 **Center for Talent Development**, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.
Residential Assistant

1/2016 **Hephzibah Children’s Association**, Oak Park, IL.
Program Intern

6/2014 - 8/2014 **University of Chicago/Chapin Hall Center for Children**, Chicago, IL.
Research Assistant

POSTERS AND PRESENTATIONS

Awkward-Rich, L., & Martin, E. (2017, April). *HighScope’s Comprehensive Assessment of Preschool Classroom Quality Validation Study*. Presentation at the Michigan Association for the Education of Young Children (MIAEYC) Early Childhood Conference, Grand Rapids, MI

Awkward-Rich, L. (2017, May). *How Detroit Parents Select Childcare*. Presentation at the HighScope International Conference, Detroit, MI.

Awkward-Rich, L. (2017, June). *Detroit Parents' Priorities When Making Childcare Decisions*. Poster presentation at the National Research Conference on Early Childhood, Arlington, VA.

COLLEGIATE AND COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE

Student at IMAC Spanish Language School, Guadalajara, Mexico | January 2015

Oberlin Student Cooperative Association Board of Directors | September 2014-December 2015

Youth Sexuality Course Research, Oberlin, OH | January 2014

Multicultural Admissions Student Advisory Committee and Overnight Host | September 2013-May 2014