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## James J. Heckman

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James J. Heckman is the Henry Schultz Distinguished Service Professor of Economics at the University of Chicago, where he directs the Center for the Economics of Human Development, a research center dedicated to rigorous empirical research on the economic foundations of lifecycle inequality.

He has devoted his professional life to understanding important social and economic issues, including how best to reduce inequality and promote opportunity for all. Current research at CEHD includes analyzing the impact of early childhood programs around the world by studying the immediate and long-term impacts of interventions (including the impacts in midlife on health and on other family members). His research also uses original data gathered in the U.S., China, and Germany to measure preferences and traits to help inform governments, schools, and teachers about how socioemotional skills can help students achieve their full potential. A new research project studies the determinants intergenerational mobility in the U.S. and Denmark to determine in what ways the “Scandinavian Fantasy” of social welfare may be a myth.

In 2000, Heckman won the Nobel Prize in Economics for his work on the microeconometrics of diversity and heterogeneity and for establishing a causal basis for public policy evaluation. He has received numerous other awards for his work, including the John Bates Clark Medal in 1983, the Gold Medal of the President of the Italian Republic in 2008, the Frisch Medal from the Econometric Society in 2014 for the most outstanding paper in applied economics published in *Econometrica* in the previous five years, and the Dan David Prize in 2016. He consistently ranks as one of the most-cited economists in the world, as reported by RePEc.

Heckman has a B.A. in Mathematics from Colorado College and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Economics from Princeton University. He has been at the University of Chicago since 1973.

