

Bisher Alshehab

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EDUCATION

Berea College – Berea, Kentucky

Expected December 2026

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Bachelor of Science in Economics | Cumulative GPA: 3.645/4.0

Tuition Promise Scholarship, \$176,000. International Student Award, \$64,000.

Relevant coursework: Econometrics, Applied Statistics, Public Policy Analysis, Legal Reasoning.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Policy Research Intern (Full Time), Bluegrass Institute, Kentucky

Summer 2026

Charles Koch Institute Internship Program — taxation, education, and regulatory policy

- Built and analyzed an original dataset of 491 Kentucky Certificate of Need (CON) applications (2019–2026); logistic regression in R showed competitor opposition reduces approval odds by roughly 87% and substantive review by 74% (both $p < 0.001$) against a 95% baseline approval rate.
- Authored “*The Competitor’s Veto: What Eight Years of Kentucky CON Decisions Reveal*” from those results — a policy article and companion one-page brief with regression tables and figures.
- Conducted, transcribed, and coded semi-structured interviews with denied and withdrawn CON applicants, and drafted outreach to bill sponsors and state legislators.
- Filed a Kentucky Open Records Act request for Lexington permit data and built keyed datasets of 546 Louisville and 468 Lexington accessory dwelling unit (ADU) permits to measure approval rates, timelines, and local regulatory barriers; produced a companion review of California’s 2016–2026 ADU reforms.

Law Advocacy Intern (Full Time), The Fund for American Studies (TFAS), Washington, D.C.

Summer 2025

Coursework in Public Policy and American Political Thought at George Mason University

- Served as Executive Officer for Public Outreach at Lawyers for Fair Reciprocal Admission (LFRA), leading communications strategy including social media, website updates, legal brief summaries, and memos supporting national advocacy for interstate bar admission reform.

Teaching Assistant (Part Time), Berea College, Kentucky

August 2024 – April 2026

- Mentored first-year students in a writing course on research, literature reviews, formatting, and citation; assisted faculty with course organization, grading, presentations, and workshops.

RESEARCH

Undergraduate Research Fellow, URCP Program, Berea College

Summer 2026

Faculty supervisor: Dr. Carlos Poggio Teixeira

- Co-authored “*Rethinking Localization of Foreign Aid: Lessons from the Post-2003 Iraqi State-Building Experiment*,” an academic paper examining how localization functioned inside USAID-funded reconstruction programs in Iraq.
- Co-authored the companion policy brief “*Rethinking U.S. Foreign Aid Effectiveness: Lessons from the Iraqi Statebuilding Experiment*,” which traced a skeptic-practitioner divide over whether aid failures are structural or fixable and recommended separating aid goals, auditing outcomes rather than outputs, and treating localization as a calibrated choice.
- Designed two interview protocols and a shared codebook; conducted seven semi-structured interviews with scholars at the Cato Institute and the American Enterprise Institute and practitioners from RTI International and USAID; translated Arabic-language transcripts and coded them across cases.

LEADERSHIP & VOLUNTEERING

Freelance Writer, Public Policy Analysis

2024 – 2025

- Co-authored formal public comments to U.S. federal agencies, including the Department of Commerce (overbroad ICTS connected-vehicle regulations), the Federal Trade Commission (government influence over online speech, First Amendment protections, and FOIA reform), and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (H-1B reforms and their effects on international students, early-career professionals, and small employers).
- Authored Chapter 4 of *Friedman Was Right*, applying Milton Friedman’s principles in *Capitalism and Freedom* to global trade and finance, and interviewed Johan Norberg for the book.
- Founded *The Limits on Executive Overreach (LEO) Report*, a weekly Substack newsletter on executive power, constitutional limits, and civil liberties; contributor and editor for *The Locksmith Magazine* and *SpeakFreely Magazine*.

Kentucky State Coordinator, Students for Liberty (Volunteer)

May 2024 – Present

- Promote individual freedom, limited government, and free-market principles on the Berea College campus.
- Won 1st place in the Economics Marvels competition for an analysis of Starbucks’ economic model; awarded a \$10,000 prize.

President, Political Science Association (Campus Club)

August 2024 – Present

President, House Bastiat (SFL); Editor in Chief, Bastiat Policy Journal

May 2025 – Present

POLICY FELLOWSHIPS & CONFERENCES

- American Enterprise Institute (AEI) Honors Program, studying economic and public policy under Alex Brill (2026).
- Accepted to the Hoover Institution Policy Boot Camp on limited governance and economic freedom (2026).
- Attended Cato Institute University in Washington, D.C. four times, studying economics, political philosophy, and policy.
- Completed Leadership Institute Youth Leadership School training; attended the FIRE annual conference and SFL LibertyCon (2025).