

October 16, 2023

Dear AER Editorial Board,

Thank you for considering our manuscript, “Redesigning the US Army’s Branching Process: A Case Study in Minimalist Market Design” (AER-2021-1743.R2). The information below constitutes my financial disclosure statement.

1. Sources of financial support for the research

Two research assistants were funded to assist with this research using support from MIT’s Department of Economics and NSF SES Grant 1426566.



2. Each interested party from whom he or she has received significant financial support, summing to at least \$10,000 in the past three years, in the form of consultant fees, retainers, grants, and the like.

I have received no financial support for this research from any interested party.

3. Each author should disclose any paid or unpaid positions as officer, director, or board member of relevant non-profit organizations or profit-making entities. A “relevant” organization is one whose policy positions, goals, or financial interests relate to this article.

- a. Co-director, NBER Working Group on Market Design
- b. Director, MIT Blueprint Labs, Department of Economics MIT
- c. Chief Economist and Founder, Avela Education

Following our initial submission, Avela was awarded a contract by the US Army to provide and support software to implement a version of the matching mechanism described in this paper.

4. The disclosures required above apply to any close relative or partner of any author.

None of my close relatives or partner hold any paid or unpaid position as officer, director, or board member of any relevant non-profit organization or profit-making entities.

5. Each author must disclose if another partner had the right to review the paper prior to its circulation.

The Office of Economic and Manpower Analysis provided clearance that the paper does not divulge classified or proprietary information. They have also required us to include the following disclosure statement: “The views expressed herein are those of the authors and do not reflect the position of the United States Military Academy, United States Cadet Command, the United States Army or the Department of Defense.”

6. IRB

This study was deemed exempt by the MIT Committee on Human Subjects on 10/01/2018 (as proposal #1809533006).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Parag Pathak". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'P' and a distinct 'k' at the end.

Parag Pathak