



PRESS RELEASE

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UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON BECOMES NABE'S NEWEST UNIVERSITY PARTNER

***Students Can Now Earn NABE's Certified Business Economist Certification (CBE) in
Conjunction with UW's MS Agricultural & Applied Economics Professional Option Degree***

WASHINGTON, DC— The National Association for Business Economics (NABE) will partner with the **University of Wisconsin-Madison** to offer students the opportunity to earn the MS Agricultural & Applied Economics Professional Option degree and **NABE's Certified Business Economist® (CBE®)** professional certification simultaneously.

UW-Madison joins nine universities that have become CBE partners over the past two years: **Boston College, Brandeis University, the University of Cincinnati, University of Connecticut, The George Washington University, John Carroll University, the University of Maryland, University of Memphis, and University of Texas at Arlington.**

"We are thrilled that the University of Wisconsin-Madison is becoming a NABE CBE partner," said NABE President **Kevin Swift, CBE**, chief economist and managing director, the American Chemistry Council. "This generation of students is graduating into one of the best job markets of the past five decades, and they are seeking new ways of distinguishing themselves from the pack. Those who earn their CBE certification alongside their economics degree will enter the job market with a distinct advantage, having mastered a body of applied economics knowledge sought after by employers and essential for a successful career in the field of economics and data analytics."

"We are excited to partner with NABE's Certified Business Economist (CBE) program," said **Jeremy Foltz**, chair of the Agricultural and Applied Economics (AAE) Department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. "AAE's rigorous training featuring both hard and soft skills will equip students with the necessary skills to compete for jobs in economic consulting, business, agribusiness, non-profit organizations focused on development, and governmental sectors. The CBE certification will validate these competencies and signal the students' commitment to stay up to date with the latest developments in economic analysis."

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The MS Agricultural & Applied Economics Professional Option (MSPO) program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is a full time, 15-month, accelerated STEM program that prepares students to enter the professional workforce in data-intensive and quantitatively focused jobs. The curriculum features three semesters and one summer term of core offerings in econometrics, economic theory, and professional development, along with a capstone practicum class leading to a professional report that functions as a thesis. Students can pursue individual interests in five major fields of specialty: environmental economics, development, food and agriculture, commodity and energy.

Launched in 2015, the CBE is a comprehensive professional certification program of study and examination covering core topics in applied economics and data analytics. Students who matriculate in qualifying master's or undergraduate degree programs at CBE partner universities will be able to complete their CBE requirements while studying for their degrees, and sit for the CBE Exam which will be offered on campus each year.

Built by more than 50 chief economists and other senior-level NABE Members, the CBE certification program is designed to train and certify candidates on a battery of skills and knowledge employers expect effective economists to possess. The CBE adds clarity to decisions around hiring and promotion and establishes a platform for lifelong continuing education and career development.

For more information on the CBE Certification, private training opportunities, or to apply to become a partner, contact Program Director Tara Munroe at tmunroe@nabe.com or 202-463-6223. Information on the CBE university partnership program can be found [here](#).

The Certified Business Economist® (CBE®) is the certification in business economics and data analytics developed by the National Association for Business Economics. The CBE is a symbol of distinction that candidates earn by meeting a prescribed level of achievement. It documents a professional's accomplishments, experience, and abilities and demonstrates mastery of the body of knowledge critical for a successful career in the field of economics and data analytics. CBE® and Certified Business Economist® are certification marks owned by the National Association for Business Economics. More information is available on the [CBE Web site](#).

ABOUT NABE: NABE is the premier professional association for business economists and those who use economics in the workplace. Since 1959, NABE has attracted the most prominent figures in economics, business, and academia to its membership with highly-regarded conferences, educational and career development offerings, industry surveys, and its unrivaled networking opportunities. Past presidents of NABE include former Chairman of the Board of Governors for the Federal Reserve System, Alan Greenspan, several former Federal Reserve governors, and other senior business leaders. For more information, please visit www.NABE.com.

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