



Leibniz-Institut für
Wirtschaftsforschung Halle

IWH Research Seminar in Economics

Montag, 24. April 2017, 14:15 – 15:45 Uhr, Konferenzraum, Leipziger Straße 100



Konferenz-
raum, Leip-
ziger Straße
100

Returns to ICT Skills

Professor Dr. Oliver Falck, ifo Zentrum für Industrieökonomik und neue Technologien

(zusammen mit Alexandra Heimisch, ifo Zentrum für Industrieökonomik und neue Technologien und Professor Dr. Simon Wiederhold, Katholische Universität Eichstätt-Ingolstadt)

How important is mastering information and communication technology (ICT) in modern labor markets? We answer this question with unique data on ICT skills tested in 19 countries. Our two instrumental-variable models exploit technologically induced variation in broadband internet availability that gives rise to variation in ICT skills across countries and German municipalities. We find that a one-standard-deviation increase in ICT skills raises earnings by about 25 percent. Exogenous broadband availability cannot explain numeracy or literacy skills, suggesting that estimated returns are unaffected by general ability. One mechanism driving positive returns is selection into occupations with high abstract task content.

Wissenschaftlicher Ansprechpartner am IWH:

Felix Pohle, M.Sc.

Tel +49 345 7753 865, Felix.Pohle@iwh-halle.de

Leibniz-Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung Halle (IWH)

Leipziger Straße 100, D-06108 Halle (Saale)

Tel +49 345 7753 60, Fax +49 345 7753 820



www.iwh-halle.de

