



Paul Winfree, Ph.D.
President and CEO, Economic Policy Innovation Center

Biography

Paul Winfree, Ph.D., is the President and CEO of the Economic Policy Innovation Center (EPIC). He has served in top management and policy roles in the White House, the U.S. Senate, and think tanks. Prior to founding EPIC, Winfree served in multiple positions during three different tours at The Heritage Foundation. These included Distinguished Fellow in Economic Policy and Public Leadership, Director of Economic Policy Studies the Richard F. Aster Fellow, and acting Director of the Center for Data Analysis.

Before rejoining Heritage in 2018, Winfree was Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy, the Deputy Director of the Domestic Policy Council, and the Director of Budget Policy, all at the White House. Winfree was also Chair of the Deputies Committee that oversaw the execution of all domestic policy at the Deputy Secretary level throughout the administration as well as the interagency policy coordination process. During the 2016 Presidential Transition, Winfree led the team responsible for the Office of Management and Budget.

Winfree served three terms as Chair of the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, a 12-member board selected by the President of the United States. In 2022, he received a distinguished service award from the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Education and Culture Affairs for his "stewardship during the COVID-19 pandemic, and for meaningful contributions to advance mutual understanding through the Fulbright Program."

Winfree's research focuses on U.S. economic history, public finance, political economy, the economics of media, and the economics of education. Winfree holds a Ph.D. in economics from Queen's University Belfast, an M.Sc. in economics and economic history from the London School of Economics and Political Science, and a B.S. in economics from George Mason University. He lives in Virginia with his wife and three children.