
Hao Zhao
Scott E. Seibert
Gerald E. Hills

Abstract:

The purpose of this study was to investigate the mediating role of self-efficacy in the development of students’ intentions to become entrepreneurs. The authors used structural equation modeling with a sample of 265 master of business administration students across 5 universities to test their hypotheses. The results showed that the effects of perceived learning from entrepreneurship-related courses, previous entrepreneurial experience, and risk propensity on entrepreneurial intentions were fully mediated by entrepreneurial self-efficacy. Contrary to expectations, gender was not mediated by self-efficacy but had a direct effect such that women reported lower entrepreneurial career intentions. The authors discuss practical implications and directions for future research.

Link to *Journal of Applied Psychology*