

# Impact to Date Report

## Fund for Unpaid Internships

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# Overview of the Fund

## **FUND VISION**

The Fund for Unpaid Internships seeks to ensure that no student has to turn down an internship, and all of the experience, skills, access, and mentoring it provides, because of a financial barrier.

## **ABOUT THE FUND**

This entirely donor-funded program awards stipends and scholarships to students completing unpaid internships, many of which are required for their degree, in fall, spring, and summer. The fund was established in fall 2021.

## **PROGRESS ON GOALS**

When the fund was first established with a gift of \$15,000, the goal was to support 10-15 students in the first year, and by year five, grow that number to 80 to 100 students total.

As we begin year four, the fund has awarded a total of 169 students, far exceeding the original goal ahead of schedule, which was only possible through the generosity of donors.



# Data Points

## 23%

### OF APPLICANTS

were awarded (169 out of 748)

## \$218,350

### IN STIPENDS/SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

ranging from \$500 to \$2,000

Round	Applied	Awarded	Amount
Fall 2021	13	4	\$7,200
Spring 2022	117	18	\$31,250
Summer 2022	10	23	\$49,500
Fall 2022	108	12	\$11,500
Spring 2023	143	20	\$21,600
Summer 2023	68	18	\$25,500
Fall 2023	154	35	\$30,300
Spring 2024*	0	0	\$0
Summer 2024	15	8	\$9,800
Fall 2024	78	25	\$28,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>748</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>\$218,350</b>

\*no awards issued in spring 2024 due to lack of funding



Out of the **77% of applicants** that were not selected to receive stipends or scholarships, about **one third reported higher than average financial need**, citing significant difficulty paying rent, buying groceries, and commuting to their internship site. That equates to approximately **\$238,750 in unmet need** (based on the award median, \$1,250 per student).

The employers that hosted students for internships represent a broad spectrum of community-critical industries including education, healthcare, law enforcement, nonprofit, and social services.

# Data Points

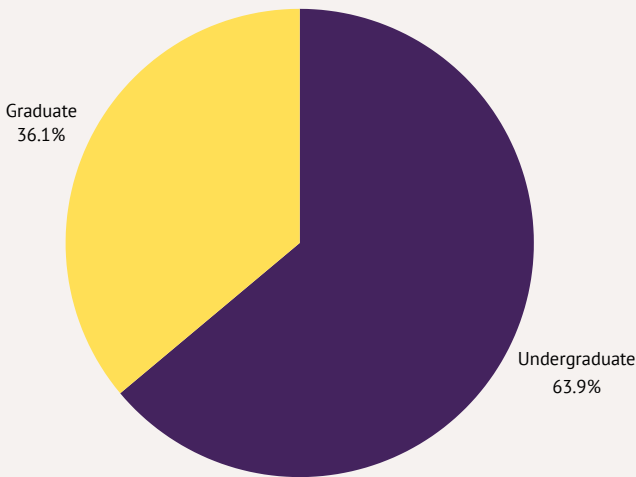
## Degree Level

**\$1,375**

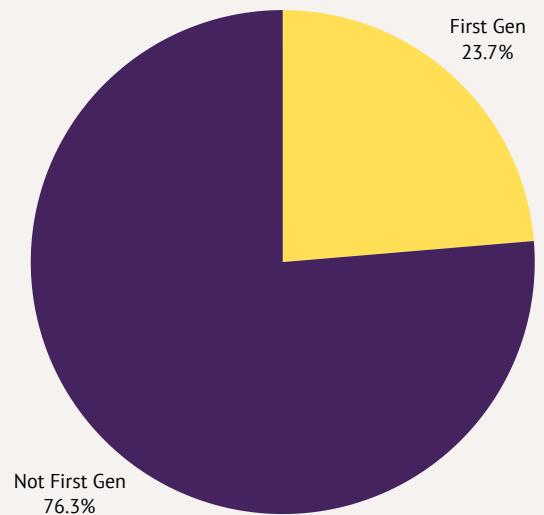
AVERAGE GRAD STUDENT AWARD

**\$1,244**

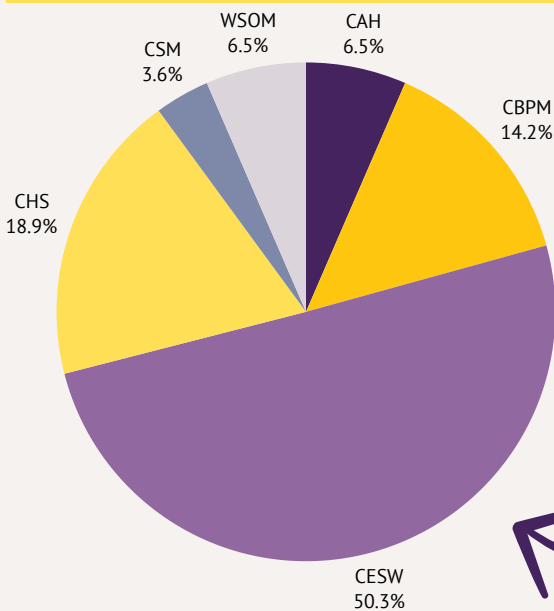
AVERAGE UNDERGRAD STUDENT AWARD



## First Gen Status



## College



Students who received stipends or scholarships are pursuing majors within the College of Arts and Humanities, College of Business and Public Management, College of Education and Social Work, College of Health Sciences, College of Science and Mathematics, and the Wells School of Music.

# Impact: Direct from Students

Since the beginning of my collegiate career, I have not received any financial support from my parents. I was also homeless in 2020, which created a barrier to my mental and physical health. All my bills and anything I purchased came directly from my own pocket. I had to take a gap year between high school and college to save for my college years. I used to be so worried that spending \$5 on a coffee, once, would financially ruin me. Any financial help allows me to have less money anxiety. - Athletic Training Student



Before this semester began, I was worried I could not complete my degree solely because of the financial burden. My loved ones offer me unlimited love and support; however, I have to pay my own way. I spend my summers and every spare minute working to support myself financially. This stipend will offer me relief and act as the grace I need during this incredibly stressful semester of student teaching. - Education Student

This funding will make going to school and taking care of my family a lot easier on me mentally and physically. I have several times this semester thought about dropping classes to work full time so I can support my family. [In this internship], I expect to become more culturally aware, improve self-care, learn to be more empathetic, and use tuning in and active listening. – Social Work Student

# Gratitude: Direct from Students

This funding is changing the course of my life and my family. - Criminal Justice Student



I am writing to express my sincere gratitude. I unfortunately had to resign from my full-time employment leading to the loss of income and health insurance. This scholarship will help to reduce the financial burdens I am now facing and will allow me to successfully complete my MSW practicum. – Social Work Student

Without this generous support, completing this amazing learning opportunity would not have been an easy task. With the help of your donation, I have been able to reduce my hours at my part time job and give all of my attention to my academics and this internship. This experience has already been so beneficial in helping me decide my next steps after graduation. – Psychology Student

This has significantly impacted my professional career, and this will allow me to work at my internship without financial troubles. I am very grateful for this opportunity, and I don't take it for granted. I am gaining experience in a real-world setting, developing skills, and earning school credit with my internship and this would not be possible without your support and generosity. Your investment in my future will be remembered and greatly appreciated. – Public Health Student