
Applying for Summer Fellowships (SUMMER FUNDING)

Office of Career & Professional Development
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Overview

Many summer public interest or public sector jobs and internships are unpaid. Students have many options to find alternate sources of summer funding. For most funding streams, you will need to secure your job before you apply. Counselors are happy to review your application materials; please make an appointment via <https://booknow.appointment-plus.com/6hd831p4/>.

Where do I find summer funding options?

- Visit www.PSJD.org and click on the funding sources tab.
- Visit www.hastingscareersonline.com (HCO) and search summer funding, summer fellowships and fellowships.
- Join the Government/Public Interest listserv for up-to-date info on public interest and public service jobs, events, and funding options: <http://lists.uchastings.edu/mailman/listinfo/gov-pi>
- Join the Diversity listserv for up-to-date information on jobs, events, and funding opportunities for minority students: <http://lists.uchastings.edu/mailman/listinfo/diversity>
- Read the *Weekly* for funding options, writing competitions, and scholarship info.
- Specialty/Minority Bar Associations sometimes provide summer funding options. (For a list of Bay Area Minority Bar Associations, visit <https://sfbar.org/mbc/index.aspx>).

What are my options through Financial Aid?

- Apply for Work Study (a federally funded program that helps students earn money to cover the cost of their education).
- Sign up for summer classes which qualify you for Financial Aid.
- Apply for Scholarships through the Financial Aid office.

What summer funding options are available through UC Hastings?

- Apply for a Hastings Public Interest Law Foundation Grant (HPILF). Application period begins the first week of March 2016. For More Information visit www.uchpilf.org
- For jobs with an international bend, apply for the UC Hastings International Internship Stipend through Global Programs: <http://www.uchastings.edu/academics/study-abroad-exchange/international-summer-stipend/index.php>

What do Summer Fellowships Require?

- Cover Letter or Statement of Interest: May ask about your commitment to public interest or why you want to work for the particular organization
- Resume
- Employer confirmation letter from hiring organization: Some employers may require proof that you have been hired
- Letter of Recommendation: Can be from a professor or former employer

Can you apply to more than one funder?

- Yes, you can and you should
- Most funders want you to seek funding from multiple sources
- Some will offset their funding based on what you receive from other funders.

The following are some **tips** to bear in mind when reviewing summer funding materials and completing applications.

1) **Read and reread the selection criteria:** Make sure you demonstrate how the work you propose to do and the sponsoring organization satisfies the various criteria of the funding entity. Explain any relevant professional or personal experience you have had doing the type of work you propose or serving the type of community you propose to serve. Show how your project furthers the goals of the funder.

2) **Use compelling language in your application:** Advocate on your behalf. Contrast the following two proposals:

A. I propose to work on consumer fraud issues in Los Angeles.

B. I propose to develop new litigation strategies to expose and stop home equity fraud against poor, disabled and elderly residents in Los Angeles.

3) **Be specific** as to the scope and character of the work you propose to do. Will you be doing research, writing, direct services, providing training and education, giving technical assistance, etc.? Who will you be serving--people with disabilities, people who are homeless, death row inmates?

4) **Be realistic** and specific if you need to supply a budget (e.g., give realistic quotes of necessary airfare, housing, food, etc. Research costs and be ready to document them).

Below are a sample of popular summer funding options:

- Equal Justice America: Legal Services Fellowships, https://www.equaljusticeamerica.org/prev_applications/ApplicationSummer.htm
- Dan Bradley Summer Fellowship, <http://laaconline.org/awards/dan-bradley-fellowship/>
- Equal Justice Works AmeriCorps JD-Eli Segal Education Award, <http://www.equaljusticeworks.org/law-school/ameriCorpsjd/apply>
- Gideon's Promise Summer Law Clerk Program, <http://www.gideonspromise.org/programs/slc>
- Federal Communications Bar Association Foundation, Robert E. Lee Scholarship, <http://www.fcba.org/foundation/programs/internship-stipends-for-law-students/>
- The Foundation Center, Seek Foundation support to fund your education, <http://foundationcenter.org/>
- Peggy Browning Fund Summer Internship, www.peggybrowningfund.org
- National Lawyers Guild, Haywood Burns Fellowship, <https://www.nlg.org/fellowships>