FUNDING SOURCES FOR SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

There are several resources available to help fund an unpaid or low-paying summer internship. Funding opportunities are available based on factors such as policy interests, sector, internship geographic location, and regional interests. This guide provides a short list of funding opportunities available through SIPA, Columbia, and external organizations.

To qualify for certain internship funding opportunities, it is imperative that you begin thinking about your summer internship plans during your first semester at SIPA. Most application deadlines for external funding occur between January and March. Application deadlines for SIPA funding typically occur in April.

In addition to early planning, you must be creative and resourceful in order to maximize your funding search efforts. Investigate whether you can design your internship to fit with a particular functional, language, or regional-study fellowship. Additionally, if an organization does not offer paid internships, try to negotiate for coverage of housing and travel costs.

FUNDING THROUGH SIPA

Office of Career Services

The Office of Career Services administers summer internship grants on behalf of SIPA. With the exception of the OCS Travel Grant, which is an automatic grant to qualifying students, all SIPA internship grants are competitive and are awarded to a limited number of students each year.

Examples of SIPA Internship Grants

OCS Travel Grant - Every summer, SIPA provides travel grants to qualifying students to help defray the cost of unpaid or low-paid overseas internships. Past awards have ranged from $900 - $2,100. The application is typically due around the last week in April. For information concerning eligibility and application guidelines, please visit the OCS Travel Grant web site at: http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/career_services/current_students/travel_grant_program.html.

Jorge Paulo Lemann Internship Grant, with financial support from the Jorge Paulo Lemann Foundation, offers awards of $2,500 to selected students participating in an unpaid or underpaid (less than 3,000 USD) summer internship in Brazil that promotes social change and/or economic improvement. The application deadline is typically in April.

Santo Domingo Summer Internship Grant provides three students with awards of $3,000 each to support their unpaid summer internship that is either located in Colombia or focuses on Colombian public affairs. Selected recipients will demonstrate strong academic merit and need, and award size will be based on such factors. The student can use this money to offset travel or living expenses. The application deadline is typically in April.
**Named Summer Internship Grant**, with financial support from SJS Charitable Trust, Charlie and Georgia Adams Internship Fund, and the Brett A. Olsher Goldman Sachs Fund, offers awards ranging between $3,000 and $5,000 to students participating in an unpaid or underpaid (less than 3,000 USD) summer internship in the U.S. or abroad. The application deadline is typically in **April**.

**Class of 2015 Gift Summer Internship Grant**, with financial support from the SIPA Class of 2015 and the SIPA Office of the Dean, offers awards ranging between $950 and $1,900 to 2-4 students to support unpaid summer internships related to their concentration or specialization. Selected recipients will demonstrate strong academic merit and need, and award size will be based on such factors. The student can use this money to offset travel or living expenses. The application deadline is typically in **April**.

**Whitman Family Foundation Summer Fellowship in Environmental Policy Studies** , with financial support from the Whitman Family Foundation, offers a $1,000 stipend to an environmental track student in the Energy and Environmental Policy (EEP) concentration. Internships must be unpaid and with a public interest organization, government organization, or international organization. OCS administers the program and the EEP concentration selects the award recipient. The application deadline is typically in **April**.

**Federal Work-Study Program** - The Federal Work-Study (FWS) program is a matching-funds program that allows nonprofit and federal, state, municipal agency employers to provide paid internships where they may not otherwise be able to do so. Student interns eligible for work-study earn a minimum of $9 to a maximum of $20 per hour, with the host organization paying 40% and the federal government paying the remaining 60% of the salary. The FWS program is available during the academic year and the summer months of July and August. Students participating in the Federal Work Study Program: 1) must be US citizens or permanent residents, and 2) must be eligible to receive Federal Work-Study wages.

Regularly check Columbia’s Work-Study Office website ([http://sfs.columbia.edu/work-study](http://sfs.columbia.edu/work-study)) for available work-study off-campus positions. Note that many organizations do not advertise their internships as work-study positions; however, students have persuaded the organizations to make the internships work-study eligible by informing the organizations about the FWS program. In addition, internships often come to SIPA through alumni or contacts who are not aware of their organizations’ participation in the FWS program, therefore, empower yourself to investigate the possibility of making the internship work-study eligible. See the OCS website under Internship Program/Work-Study Program for more information and for a list of recent employer participants in the FWS program: [https://sipa.columbia.edu/careers/internship-program/federal-work-study](https://sipa.columbia.edu/careers/internship-program/federal-work-study).

Other sources of funding may also be available based on alumni/student association donations. Please be sure to check OCS Career News and your emails for additional information should these opportunities become available.

**SIPASA – SIPA Student Association**

**Christopher Hill MPA Internship Grant** honors the life of former MPA student, Christopher Hill, by awarding scholarships to continuing MPA students undertaking unpaid public service internships in government or nonprofit organizations domestically or abroad. Christopher died in March 2000, while still studying at SIPA, after a courageous battle with cancer. Each year, the number of awards and amount of each award depends on funding available. Past awards have ranged from $500-1,000 and 2-4 students received the award. OCS
administrates the program and SIPASA selects the award recipients. The application deadline is typically in April.

FUNDING THROUGH COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Summer Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowships (FLAS)

For funding support, consider combining your internship with a language or regional study. It is often easier to find funding for language studies. The Summer FLAS fellowships provide payment of program tuition up to $5,000 plus a $2,500 stipend for graduate students. The summer language course studied under the Summer FLAS fellowships must be the equivalent of an academic year course and be at least 140 credit or contact hours for beginning and intermediate level courses, or 120 hours for advanced courses. Most overseas programs of study must be at the intermediate or advanced level of language proficiency with the exception of beginning level instruction for languages in which instruction is not available in the U.S. For these courses students may pursue intensive beginning level instruction overseas. All courses must be a minimum of six weeks in length and must be approved by the United States Department of Education. See http://gsas.columbia.edu/content/flas-fellowship-summer for more information. The application is typically due in mid-February.

Also, visit the Institutes for information about FLAS fellowships for their languages, e.g., ILAS administers the FLAS program for Spanish and Portuguese, and the Weatherhead East Asian Institute administers the FLAS program for Chinese, Japanese, Korean and modern Tibetan.

The Harriman Institute

PepsiCo Fellowships for travel/research in the former Soviet Union and East Central Europe are awarded to outstanding Harriman Institute students and junior faculty to support semester and summer travel to the former Soviet Union and East Central Europe for the purposes of conducting research. General application deadlines are: November for spring fellowship awards; February for summer fellowship awards; and May for fall fellowship awards. Summer Language Fellowships are awarded annually for the intensive study of a Soviet language or East European language either abroad or in the United States. These are $2,000 awards. The deadline is typically mid-February. For more information and to apply, visit: http://harriman.columbia.edu/courses/graduate-student-support.

Harriman Junior Fellowships are awarded annually for a period of one year to qualified candidates enrolled in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS) (PhD candidates must have passed their comprehensive exams by the time the fellowship takes effect), to candidates enrolled in the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) who are entering their third semester, and to candidates from other graduate divisions and professional schools at Columbia. Awards may pay part of tuition and/or living expenses. Applications are due by mid-February. For more information and to apply, visit: http://harriman.columbia.edu/courses/graduate-student-support.

PepsiCo Junior Fellowships are awarded for a period of one academic year to outstanding Certificate candidates. Candidates should have completed two semesters of graduate studies by the time the fellowship period begins and should be in good standing with their departments or schools. The Fellowship supports one year of course work. PepsiCo Junior Fellowship applications are included in the Academic Year Application.
Applications are due by mid-February. For more information and to apply, visit: http://harriman.columbia.edu/courses/graduate-student-support.

Summer Language Study Fellowships are awarded to Columbia undergraduate and graduate students for intensive study of the languages of Russia, Eurasia, and East Central Europe in either the region or the U.S. Open to all Columbia University students. The application is typically due in mid-February. For more information and to apply, visit: http://harriman.columbia.edu/courses/graduate-student-support.

Padma Desai Summer Fellowships support travel and living expenses for summer research, travel, language training, or internship opportunities for undergraduates and/or graduate students whose interests include Russian and/or Soviet Studies. Students from the fields of Economics, Political Science, and History may apply. While preference is given to students who plan to use their fellowships in Russia, other locations that enrich a student’s understanding of Russian and Soviet Studies will also be considered. The application is typically due in early April. For more information and to apply, visit: http://harriman.columbia.edu/courses/graduate-student-support.

Civil Society Graduate Fellowships support graduate students from across Columbia University on a competitive application basis. The Fellowship supports travel and living expenses for unpaid practical summer internships at any international or non-governmental organization that benefits civil society in any of the countries of the Russian, Eurasian, or East-Central European region. Applications are due in early April. For more information and to apply, visit: http://harriman.columbia.edu/courses/graduate-student-support.

Institute of Latin American Studies
The Institute of Latin American Studies (ILAS) at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS) is privileged to receive funding from the Lemann Foundation, the US Department of Education, the Tannenbaum Fund, and other sources, to provide grants, scholarships, and fellowships to Columbia University undergraduate and graduate students.

Summer Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships are awarded for the study of Portuguese, Spanish, Creole, and Indigenous (Amerindian) languages. The summer FLAS fellowship competition is open to graduate students of Columbia University who are US citizens or permanent residents and are concentrating in world area studies. Priority will be given to less commonly taught languages (LCTL – Amerindian, Creole, and Portuguese). Applications for Spanish Language study are for students at the intermediate level and above. Applications for Portuguese Language study are for students at the beginning level and above. Applications for Indigenous Language study are available at all levels. Applications for Creole Language study are available at all levels. The application is typically due in mid-February. For more information and to apply, visit: http://ilas.columbia.edu/resources/funding-opportunities-for-students/.

Pre-Dissertation Field Research Travel Grant is a competition for field research money for Columbia graduate and doctoral students doing independent and/or pre-dissertation research in Latin America for up to $2,000. Research periods typically range from six to twelve weeks. The application deadline is typically in the end of February. For more information and to apply, visit: http://ilas.columbia.edu/resources/funding-opportunities-for-students/.

Graduate Internship Travel Grant is intended primarily for the benefit of MIA and MPA SIPA students in order to undertake summer internships in Latin America. Awards will range up to $1,000 for qualifying
expenses associated with travel to the internship country and travel within the country. Travel is expected to be undertaken during the summer, but, exceptionally, travel during other periods will be considered if funds are available. The application deadline is in mid-March. For more information and to apply, visit: http://ilas.columbia.edu/resources/funding-opportunities-for-students/.

The Tamer Center for Social Enterprise

Social Enterprise Summer Fellowships provide support to students engaged in summer internships that create social and environmental value. Fellowships can take place in the U.S. or abroad at nonprofit, government or nongovernmental organizations, for-profit and nonprofit social ventures, and social venture capital firms. Fellows help organizations across a range of projects and issues, including strategic planning, start-up business plan development, marketing and product strategies, financial analysis, operational improvements, and performance evaluation. The Social Enterprise Summer Fellowship Program contributes a $200 to $600 per week stipend to assist with expenses associated with the internship to summer fellows, depending on the availability of funds. All Columbia University students who wish work full time over the summer with early- or later-stage social ventures are eligible to apply for a Social Enterprise Summer Fellowship. Application deadlines fall between March and April. For more information and to apply, visit: http://www8.gsb.columbia.edu/socialenterprise/careers/internships/columbia-students.

Weatherhead East Asian Institute

Mitsui USA Research Fellowships Provide up to $5,000 in support for academic research in Japan. The Mitsui USA Research fellowship provides two Columbia students financial support to conduct first-hand academic research in Japan over a 6-8 week period during July and August. Priority will be given to those students with interest in international trade, business, investment, and/or interest in Japan’s role in regional and global affairs as demonstrated through course selection(s) and/or participation in past research projects. Priority is also given to applicants committed to the study of Japanese language through past courses. The application deadline generally falls in mid-February. More information at: http://weai.columbia.edu/academics/scholarships-grants/ Mitsui-usa-research-fellowship/.

Sasakawa Young Leader Fellowship Fund (SYLFF) Internship Grant provides partial support, travel and/or cost of living (amount varies between $1,000 and $3,000) for SIPA students who have secured internships in Southeast Asia. Recipients will be chosen on the basis of proven leadership ability and their commitment to make Southeast Asia a part of their long-term professional careers. An average of ten awards is given each year. The application deadline generally falls in mid-February. More information at: http://weai.columbia.edu/academics/scholarships-grants/sylff-summer-grant/.

Weatherhead M.A. Training Grant provides up to $3,000 in support of research or internships in East Asia. Priority is given to projects that develop academic and/or professional expertise that crosses traditional disciplinary, geographic, or temporal boundaries, and/or combines regional and functional expertise. Examples of projects for submission would include, but are not limited to, research trips, unpaid internships, and summer acquisition of a second language. Priority is also given to applicants committed to make East Asia a part of their long-term career. An average of six awards is granted each year. The application deadline generally falls in mid-February. More information at: http://weai.columbia.edu/academics/scholarships-grants/weatherhead-ma-training-grant/.
Summer Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships provide tuition, health and basic insurance fees, and a stipend of $2,500 for intensive study of Chinese, Japanese or Korean at the third-year level or above, and modern Tibetan at the second year level or above. The application is typically due in the end of February. For more information and to apply, visit: http://weai.columbia.edu/academics/scholarships-grants/summer-flas/.

EXTERNAL FUNDING SOURCES

Exchanges, Training and Study Abroad: American Councils administers a variety of cultural exchange, study abroad, and research programs on behalf of both public and private funders. Participation in these programs is through an open, merit-based competition, and facilitates mutual understanding between the United States and Eurasia, Southeast Europe, and South Asia. Many programs do not offer funding themselves, but are vehicles for funding such as the Boren Fellowship or US Department of State (Title VIII) grant support. Due dates vary by opportunity (October – March). For more information on each program, visit: http://www.americancouncils.org/services.

The Boren Fellowship

Boren Fellowships provide U.S. graduate students up $24,000 ($12,000 for 12-24 weeks, $20,000 for 25-36 weeks, $24,000 for 37-52 weeks) in order to support the opportunity to add an important international and language component to their graduate education through specialization in area study, language study, or increased language proficiency. The program focuses on geographic areas, languages, and fields of study deemed critical to U.S. national security. It draws on a broad definition of national security, recognizing that the scope of national security has expanded to include not only the traditional concerns of protecting and promoting American well-being, but also the challenges of global society, including: sustainable development, environmental degradation, global disease and hunger, population growth and migration, and economic competitiveness. The application deadline for 2016-17 is late January. For more information, visit: https://borenawards.org/boren_fellowship/how_apply.html.

Conference on Asian Pacific American Leadership

CAPAL will award stipends to outstanding Asian Pacific American (APA) graduate students who will be serving in unpaid public service internships (non-profit or government) in the Washington DC area for the summer. The $3,500 stipends are intended to enable outstanding APA scholars with leadership potential to work full-time and learn about ways to influence public policy in their local communities. Preference is given to students with financial need. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis and the final deadline will be in mid-March. For more information, visit: http://site.capal.org/programs/scholarships-and-internships/.

Institute of Turkish Studies

Located at the School of Foreign Service of Georgetown University, The Institute of Turkish Studies (ITS) is a nonprofit US private educational institution devoted to the advancement of training, research, and teaching in the field of Ottoman and modern Turkish Studies. Summer Language Study Grants for graduate students in the social sciences or humanities for summer travel to Turkey for language study in preparation for graduate research at an established Ottoman or Turkish language facility. Normally, the recipients of these grants are expected to spend a minimum of two months in Turkey. Stipends generally range from $2,000 to $3,000.
Deadlines are typically in the **beginning of March**. For more information, visit: [http://www.turkishstudies.org/grants/grants_competition.shtml](http://www.turkishstudies.org/grants/grants_competition.shtml).

**Mathematica, Inc.**

The Summer Fellowships for Pursuing Self-Directed, Issues-Oriented Research promote careers in social policy research, particularly for scholars who might otherwise be drawn to government or academia. The program supports independent, self-directed research on economic or social problems that affect minority groups and individuals with disabilities. Stipends of $10,000 for full participation plus $500 toward project-related expenses. Applications are typically due in **mid-March**. For further information, see: [http://www.mathematica-mpr.com/career-opportunities/summer-fellowships](http://www.mathematica-mpr.com/career-opportunities/summer-fellowships).

**Clubs and Organizations**

**Clubs such as the Kiwanis, Rotary, Optimists, or other fraternal organizations** are also great sources for funding as they are meant to assist members of the community in their service efforts. Specifically for Rotary Clubs, offering to attend a Rotary meeting in the country where you will be interning would be extremely beneficial. The website for Rotary is: [http://www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org).

**Churches, temples, synagogues and other religious centers** are communities which are often interested in supporting their members in whatever way possible. Some organizations have established scholarship funds; in other times, members may be inspired to donate for your cause if informed about your pursuits.

**General Federation of Women’s Clubs** may have a local chapter in your home town. To find a local chapter, visit: [http://www.gfwc.org](http://www.gfwc.org).

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

**The Foundation Center** is an additional online resource where students can do research about different funding options and opportunities. Visit the website: [www.foundationcenter.org](http://www.foundationcenter.org).

**The Institute for International Education** maintains a directory with detailed descriptions of hundreds of study abroad scholarships, fellowships, grants, and paid internships for U.S. undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate students, and professionals. Visit the website: [http://www.studyabroadfunding.org/index.asp](http://www.studyabroadfunding.org/index.asp).