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 third week of 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.

Energias de Portugal, S.A. Summer Internship Grant, with financial support from Energias de Portugal, S.A., awards up to $4,000 are given to selected students participating in unpaid energy-related summer internships that promote social responsibility, sustainability, innovation, and proactive environmental management. The application deadline is typically in April.

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.

Named Summer Internship Grant, with financial support from SJS Charitable Trust, the Brett A. Olsher Goldman Sachs Fund, and the Bradley Internship 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 may apply. 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 summer internship 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 $8 to a maximum of $16 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 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.

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 administers 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](http://gsas.columbia.edu/content/flas-fellowship-summer) for more information. The application is typically due in the end of 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; March for summer fellowship awards; and May for all 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 at the end of February.

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.

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 the end of February.

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 April.

Institute of Latin American Studies

The Institute of Latin American Studies (ILAS) at the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University receives funding from The Leitner Family Foundation, The Tinker Foundation, and the US Department of Education which allows them to provide grants and fellowships to Columbia University undergraduate and graduate students and junior faculty.

Summer Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships are awarded for the study of Portuguese, Spanish 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. The summer FLAS award offers fellowship assistance to students undergoing beginning, intermediate, or advanced training in modern foreign languages and related international or area studies. The application is typically due in the end of February.

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.

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 $1,500 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 March.

For more information and to apply, visit: http://ilas.columbia.edu/fundingopportunities/student_funding.

If you have any questions regarding these fellowship and travel grant programs and would like to schedule an appointment for further information, please e-mail Eliza Kwon-Ahn at ek2159@columbia.edu.
Middle East Institute

**Summer Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships** are awarded for the study of Arabic, Persian, Turkish and Hebrew languages. The competition is open to graduate and undergraduate students of Columbia University and Barnard College who are US citizens or permanent residents concentrating in world area studies. The application is typically due in the end of February.

For more information and to apply, visit: [http://www.mei.columbia.edu/fellowships.shtml](http://www.mei.columbia.edu/fellowships.shtml).

The Middle East Institute web site also contains valuable links to external grants and fellowships at: [http://www.mei.columbia.edu/externalfellowships.shtml](http://www.mei.columbia.edu/externalfellowships.shtml).

**Weatherhead East Asian Institute**

**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 **late February**. More information at: [http://www.columbia.edu/cu/weai/student-resources/sylff_summer.html](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/weai/student-resources/sylff_summer.html).

**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 **late February**.

**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://www.college.columbia.edu/students/fellowships/catalog/foreign-language-area-studies-flas-fellowship](http://www.college.columbia.edu/students/fellowships/catalog/foreign-language-area-studies-flas-fellowship).

**EXTERNAL FUNDING SOURCES**

**American Council for International Education ACTR/ACCELS Language/Research Scholars Programs**

**Research Scholar Program** provides full support for three to nine-month research trips to Russia, Central Asia, the Southern Caucasus, Ukraine, Belarus, and Moldova. Fellowships include round-trip international travel, housing, living stipends, visas, insurance, affiliation fees, archive access, research advising, and logistical support in the field. Open to US graduate students, post-doctoral scholars, and faculty. Funding available through American Councils from US Department of State (Title VIII) grant support. Application deadlines: **January 2016** (spring and summer programs). For more information, visit: [http://researchfellowships.americancouncils.org/researchscholar](http://researchfellowships.americancouncils.org/researchscholar).

**Combined Research and Language Training Program** provides full support for research and approximately ten hours per week of advanced language instruction for three to nine months in Russia, Central Asia, the Southern Caucasus, Ukraine, Belarus, and Moldova. Fellowships include round-trip international travel, housing, tuition, living stipends, visas, insurance, affiliation fees, archive access, research advising, and logistical support in the field. Open to US graduate students, post-doctoral scholars, and faculty. Funding available through American Councils from US Department of State
(Title VIII) grant support. Application deadlines: **January 2016**. For more information, visit: [http://researchfellowships.americancouncils.org/crlt](http://researchfellowships.americancouncils.org/crlt).

**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](http://www.americancouncils.org/services).

**Brown and Caldwell**

**Dr. W. Wesley Eckenfelder, Jr. Scholarship** offers $3,000 scholarships for students pursuing careers within environmental sectors. All interested undergraduate and graduate students are encouraged to apply, but students must be declared majors in civil, chemical or environmental engineering or one of the environmental sciences (e.g. geology, hydrogeology, biology, ecology, industrial hygiene toxicology) to qualify. The application deadline is in **April**. For more information, visit: [http://www.brownandcaldwell.com/Scholarships.asp?id=2](http://www.brownandcaldwell.com/Scholarships.asp?id=2).

**Minority Scholarship** helps minority groups succeed in the environmental engineering industry. Students must be US citizens and be enrolled full-time at a graduate program with a declared concentration in environmental science. The deadline to apply is in **April**. For more information visit: [http://www.brownandcaldwell.com/Scholarships.asp?id=1](http://www.brownandcaldwell.com/Scholarships.asp?id=1).

**The Boren Fellowship**

Boren Fellowships provide U.S. graduate students up $24,000 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**. [Click here](https://borenawards.org/boren_fellowship/how_apply.html) to go directly to the online application. For more information, visit: [https://borenawards.org/boren_fellowship/how_apply.html](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 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. Stipends range from $2,000-$3,000 and a $500 housing/travel supplement. Preference is given to students with financial need. The early deadline to apply is generally **mid-February**, the final deadline will be **early March**. For more information, visit: [http://site.capal.org/programs/scholarships-and-internships](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.

IREX

The Yegor Gaidar Fellowship Program in Economics supports the long-term development of Russia’s market economy by providing opportunities for leading Russian economists to conduct collaborative research with U.S. economic experts. The program aims to strengthen the human capacity at Russian institutions in developing entrepreneurship, economic diversification, technological innovation, and globalization. Gaidar Fellows are chosen through a merit-based and open competition to spend a minimum of two, and up to approximately six months at a U.S. think tank, university, or research center according to their research focus and professional expertise. For more information, visit: http://www.irex.org/project/yegor-gaidar-fellowship-program-economics.

Mathematica, Inc.

The Summer Fellowships for Independent Research on Social Policy Issues Affecting Minorities promote careers in social policy research, particularly for scholars who might otherwise be drawn to government or academe, the program supports independent, self-directed research on economic or social problems that affect minority groups and individuals with disabilities. Stipends are approximately $10,000. Applications are typically due in March. For further information, see: http://www.mathematica-mpr.com/career-opportunities/summer-fellowships-pursuing-self-directed-issues-oriented-research.

The Harold W. Rosenthal Fellowship in International Relations

The Harold W. Rosenthal Fellowship offers qualified students pursuing a career in international relations the opportunity to spend a summer in professional fellowship positions with a member of Congress or in the State Department. In most years, two to four students are awarded the fellowship, each receiving a stipend for his or her work. The Fellowship will include independent research on legislation and other international affairs issues. The program will also help to integrate the Fellows into the larger foreign affairs community in Washington, including offices and committees in Congress, the Executive branch, local universities, and seminars in the area. The application deadline is typically at the end of November. For more information, visit: www.rosenthalfellowship.org.

The J.W. Saxe Memorial Fund

The J.W. Saxe Memorial Fund provides $2,000 scholarships annually to one or more undergraduate or graduate students working in public service. The award is meant to enable the student to gain practical experience in public service by taking a no-pay or low-pay job during a summer or other term. Preference is given to students who have secured an internship in public service. Applicants should send resume, essay describing long- and short-term goals, including indication of need for funds, and four letters of reference, including at least one from a faculty member, to J.W. Saxe Memorial Fund, 1524 31st Street, N.W., Washington DC 20007-3074. The application deadline is typically in March or beginning of April. For more information, visit: http://www.jwsaxefund.org.

Tylenol

The Tylenol Future Care Scholarship supports undergraduate and graduate students that exhibit strong community and activity leadership and intend to major in areas that will lead to careers in health-related fields. In 2011, $250,000 in scholarships was awarded. The application deadline is typically in May. For more information, visit: http://www.tylenol.com/news/scholarship.
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).