



SIGP

Summer Internship Grant Program

Who we are

Established in 2007, the Summer Internship Grant Program supports Northwestern students with a demonstrated financial need as they are participating in unpaid internships. SIGP covers a student's living expenses so that they can focus on their career opportunity.

In 2025, **282** Northwestern students were awarded SIGP and received a **\$3,500 stipend** to participate in unpaid summer internships.

Student Experience

Who they are

In 2025, **282 students** from 6 schools/colleges on 2 different campuses worked for organizations in **25 states**, the District of Columbia, and **34 countries**. **89%** of SIGP recipients would have had to turn down their summer experience or supplement the experience with a second job if it had not been for SIGP funding.

What they learned

- Communication skills
- Technical skills
- Problem-solving skills
- Analytical skills
- Strong work ethic
- Flexibility/adaptability
- Teamwork skills
- Attention to detail
- Initiative
- Creativity



97%

of students said they would recommend their summer experience to another Northwestern student.

Where they went



Arts, Culture, Museums & Performance

Aspen Music Festival
Chicago Summer Opera
CineCity Studios
Los Angeles Theatre Initiative
Oak Park Festival Theatre
Stewart Talent Agency



Communications, Journalism, Media & Publishing

Bethesda Big Train
Captive Entertainment
Chicago Public Media
CR Fashion Book
Lakefront Creative Group
TapLab



Government & Public Policy

APS & Associates
Chicago Civic Committee
Community Legal Aid Society
Illinois Department of Public Health
Iowa Attorney General's Office
US House of Representatives



Nonprofit & Community Organizations

Evanston Grows
Indiana Coalition for Public Education
James B. Moran Center for Youth Advocacy
Little Friends
Prison + Neighborhood Arts & Education Project
Run on Climate

SIGP Supporters

Why it matters



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I was working as a development intern for Captivate Entertainment as well as a part-time production assistant for Disney's Creative Marketing Production team. I'm originally from St. Louis, so upending my life to transplant to Los Angeles was a huge undertaking, and without SIGP, it wouldn't have been possible. I had the most magical summer I ever could've imagined, spending each day on a new adventure. I see a future for myself in the film industry in Los Angeles, and after this summer, I feel so much more equipped to move there after graduation with alumni contacts already in my back pocket. It was seriously the best experience of my life, and without your donation, I wouldn't have had the funds to make this internship happen. You really made a difference in my life, and I will forever be grateful!

Jack Shadden
SoC '28



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At ICPE, I contributed to policy analysis, data collection, nonprofit resource development, and wrote an article on charter schools and education funding. This experience affirmed my passion for education politics and inspired me to pursue a career in education law. I am deeply grateful to have met mentors and advocates who share my commitment to public education, and I know this would not have been possible without your generosity. Without your support, I truly don't know what I would have pursued post-grad. Your generosity has not only shaped my undergraduate experience but has also opened pathways for my future that I may never have discovered otherwise. Thank you for making opportunities like this possible for the Northwestern community.

Zenobia Jordan
Weinberg '26



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Entering the startup world is often reserved for those with financial safety nets, and as a first-generation, low-income international student, I would not have been able to access this opportunity without your support. My role was to support early-stage startups across growth, product, and fundraising, and in the process, I learned tremendously from founders building from pre-seed to seed, met experts across industries, and gained exposure to a network I could not have imagined before. Working in such a fast-paced environment taught me how to be scrappy, resourceful, and ready to take ownership of large projects quickly. This experience has been truly life-changing, and it was only possible because of SIGP. Thank you for opening the door to this world for me, for believing in my potential, and for inspiring me to keep pushing boundaries.

Vira Vitiv
Weinberg '27



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This experience has been transformative both professionally and personally. It not only confirmed my passion for pursuing a career in immigration law but also gave me the confidence and skills to continue on this path. None of this would have been possible without the generous support from SIGP, and I will forever be grateful for the support you have provided me. I hope to one day be in a position to pay forward the kindness and opportunity you have given me. Your belief in students like me and your commitment to supporting experiential learning opportunities is truly making a difference in our communities. Thank you once again for your incredible generosity and for making this transformative experience possible.

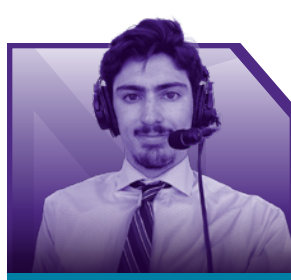
Gabriel Sanchez
Weinberg '26



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In just one summer, I have not only learned so much about opera administration, but I have also had the privilege of getting to know and work alongside so many incredible people. I had long been a fan of early music, but Haymarket's productions revealed early opera to me as something more vivid and captivating than I had previously thought. I was surprised by the singers' ability to portray such a wide range of relatable emotions, and I especially loved witnessing the energy in the audience at every performance. Thank you very much for your generous support of my summer internship grant. My internship would not have been possible without SIGP, and I feel so fortunate to have had such a meaningful experience.

Cecelia Olszewski
Bienen '26



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Thank you so much for supporting my SIGP grant this summer. Because of you, I was able to fulfill my dreams for a summer internship. I had a blast improving my skills as a baseball broadcaster, which I hope to one day do professionally. Being able to work this internship was a major step in the right direction thanks to your generous donation. While I have broadcasted games for Northwestern sports for the past two school years, I have never had to work five to six games in a week and, because of this summer, I learned about what the day-to-day grind will be like when I pursue broadcasting post-grad. Once again, thank you so much for your donation and for helping me have the best summer possible.

Eliav Brooks-Rubin
Medill '27

Funding for SIGP comes from a variety of generous sources, including alumni, parents, staff, and the University. The Alumnae of Northwestern University, Council of One Hundred, and the NU Club of Washington, D.C., are among our major contributors.

Since SIGP's inception, the need to support students continues to increase. Without SIGP, the majority of selected students would need to turn down their summer experiences or supplement them with a second job. Financial support for SIGP goes directly to students to pay for living and travel expenses during the summer of their unpaid experiences.