

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 2024, **382** Northwestern students were awarded SIGP to participate in unpaid summer internships. Stipends ranged from **\$3500-\$4500**.

Northwestern | STUDENT AFFAIRS
Career Advancement

Student Experience

Who they are

In 2024, **382 students** from 6 schools/colleges on 2 different campuses worked for organizations in **28 states**, the District of Columbia, and **36 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
- Teamwork
- Initiative
- Detail-oriented
- Interpersonal skills
- Strong work ethic
- Flexibility/adaptability

97%

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

Where they went

Students interned at a range of organizations in a variety of industries, including:



Arts, Culture, Museums & Performance

Eastern Music Festival
Hubbard Street Dance Chicago
Los Angeles Theatre Initiative
National Repertory Orchestra
Prague Shakespeare Co.
The Woodstock Playhouse



Communications, Journalism, Media & Publishing

Center for Collaborative Investigative Journalism
Chicago Public Media
Evanston Roundtable
Melville House Press
Midstory
The Dispatch



Government & Public Policy

Border Community Alliance
Great Cities Institute
Office of Congressman Gabe Vasquez
Small Business Advocacy Council
The League of Women Votes of Illinois
US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)



Nonprofit & Community Organizations

Forging Opportunities for Refugees in America (FORA)
Good News Partners
James B Moran Center for Youth Advocacy
John Howard Association of Illinois
Rainbows for All Children
Reclaim Evanston

SIGP Supporters

Why give?

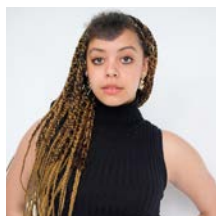


Every project I contributed to felt purposeful, knowing it could help shift industry standards. This experience has solidified my desire to pursue a career in documentary filmmaking, using media as a tool to inspire change. This opportunity would not have been possible without your kindness, and the experiences I've gained are invaluable to my growth, both personally and professionally. I feel deeply fortunate and incredibly grateful to have been able to work toward my goals this summer because of your contribution. Please know that your generosity has made a lasting impact on my life, and I will carry this experience with me throughout my career. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for believing in students like me and enabling us to pursue our dreams.

– **Alena Baker,**
Medill '25

SIGP allowed me to accept an unpaid internship at the Department of Justice in DC. I was in the office of legislative affairs and learned so much this summer. I met incredible lawyers that gave me a lot of insight into the kind of work I want to do in the future and helped me gain practical experience with politics and the law. I was able to work on many incredible issues and help on matters that I would not have been able to at any other institution. Being in the nation's capital and meeting some of the most knowledgeable and experienced policy experts was truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and I am so glad that I was able to accept my internship. This was my first time in DC and without the help of the summer grant, I would not have been able to afford the city without working a second job.

– **Aby James,**
Weinberg '25

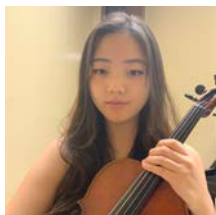


This summer, I had the incredible opportunity to serve as the Executive Leadership Intern at the Theatre of Eternal Values, an experience that I will cherish and take with me as I begin my professional journey in arts & entertainment. I worked closely with the Artistic Director, who supported, pushed, and challenged me to grow and think beyond the traditional theatre canon. A highlight was my deep involvement in the development and execution of TEV's summer production season. Stepping into the role of Production Stage Manager sharpened my organizational and leadership skills and reinforced the importance of creative collaboration and adaptability. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your generous support. Your investment in my education and career has made a significant impact, and I am profoundly grateful.

– **Arwen-Vira Marsh,** School of
Communication '25

I had the privilege of participating as a violist in the Northern Lights Chamber Music Institute. One of the highlights was performing “Wounded Fields” for the composer himself at our final concert. It is such an emotionally powerful piece, and being able to move the audience was amazing. Many of our audience members (including the performers) were in tears at the end of the performance. It was a life-changing experience that reminded me of why I decided to take the risk to pursue music in the first place. Committing to a career in music has been a significant leap for me given the financial challenges that have limited my experience in the past. I am deeply grateful for your support which made this experience possible. Your generosity has played a crucial role in my development as a musician and as an artist committed to making a difference through music.

– **Eunchai Kang,**
Bienen '26





We are thrilled to support the Summer Internship Grant Program (SIGP) year after year. One of the joys of being a SIGP donor is the opportunity for our Alumnae Board of Directors to interact with students – to hear first-hand about their summer experiences and the impact on their choice of career.

- The Alumnae of Northwestern University

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.