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 2023, 362 Northwestern students were awarded SIGP (a $3,500 stipend) to participate in unpaid summer internships.
Student Experience

Who they are

In 2023, 362 students from 6 schools/colleges on 2 different campuses worked for organizations in 29 states, the District of Columbia, and 33 countries. 91% 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
- Teamwork
- Organizational skills
- Problem-solving skills
- Analytical skills
- Flexibility/Adaptability
- Initiative

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**
- Atlantic Theater Company
- Kids Creative Collective
- LA Youth Philharmonic Orchestra
- Prague Shakespeare Co.
- Summer Stage Wooster
- Trentino Music Festival

**Communications, Journalism, Media & Publishing**
- International Children’s Media Center
- Magnus Media
- Midstory
- Midwest Premier League
- Slam Media
- Trill Mag

**Government & Public Policy**
- Association for Diplomatic Studies & Training
- Chicago Mayor’s Office for People with Disabilities
- Congressman Quigley’s District Office
- IL Office of Equity
- NYC Dept of Health and Mental Hygiene
- US Dept of Education

**Nonprofit & Community Organizations**
- Chicago Council on Global Affairs
- Family Matters
- IL Network of Charter Schools
- Koreatown Youth & Community Center
- Lurie Children’s Hospital
- Rainbows for All Children
SIGP Supporters

Why give?

One of the most rewarding aspects of my internship was witnessing the direct impact of our work. It was a joy to see when one of our clients, whose tape I had reviewed, successfully booked a job. These moments reinforced the importance of our meticulous efforts and the role we played in helping aspiring talents achieve their dreams. Thank you so much for making this internship experience possible. I wouldn’t have been able to accept this offer if it weren’t for this grant. Your support has not only enabled me to gain practical knowledge and insights but has also reaffirmed my passion for pursuing a career in the entertainment industry.

– Casey Wangman, School of Communication ‘24

This internship was particularly special to me as it marked my first professional experience conducted entirely in English, a language I have been working hard to master. The challenges I faced and overcame during this period significantly contributed to my personal and academic growth. I want to extend my sincerest thanks to the donors for supporting the grant that made these opportunities possible. As an international student and first-generation, low-income student, this grant played a pivotal role in allowing me to pursue my passions and gain valuable experience that will undoubtedly shape my future. Your generosity has made a lasting impact on my life and academic journey.

– Andre Avellar, Weinberg ‘26

My internship was in Magnus Media, a music booking agency in Miami, Florida, focusing on Hispanic and Latinx artists. I was surrounded by passionate, detail-oriented individuals who love their job, and love live music. It was an environment that fostered creativity, hard work, care, and trust. This summer has proved invaluable in my growth as a career-woman and professional worker. I was offered to continue working with them past the summer, as well, and gained understanding of the power of having a positive, open attitude. Thank you so much, from the bottom of my heart, for giving me this incredible opportunity and believing in me.

– Aurora Jablon, Bienen ‘25

I worked at a non-profit called Rainbows for All Children that provides training to adults to be able to start peer support groups for kids who have lost family members. Thanks to SIGP, I was able to help Rainbows for All Children reach out to schools and organizations in 12 more states to be a resource in their communities. I’m hoping that my work this summer will continue to spread these important resources to communities that need it, and I was able to do this work thanks to your generous donation. Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to take on this internship. I’m certain I will cherish this experience for the rest of my life.

– Joy Kang, SESP ‘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.