

Fellowships

WHAT IS A FELLOWSHIP

Fellowships are funded opportunities offered by organizations to help students further their education, acquire skills, and broaden their horizons both personally and professionally.

Fellowships can be designed to support a range of activities including:

- graduate study in a specific field
- research to advance work on a particular issue
- developing a new community-based organization or initiative
- training and reflection to support the fellow's growth
- opportunities to further explore a particular field of work
- short-term experience typically 6-12 months

BENEFITS OF A FELLOWSHIP

- Prestigious honor – application process is typically highly competitive
- Provides significant work experience that is not typically available to someone starting out in an entry-level position. Many fellowships have a substantial leadership component.
- Professional development opportunities, often including intensive training and academic seminars taught by leaders in the field.
- Access to mentors who are often the “movers and shakers” of the field, and are normally very difficult to meet.
- Travel is often a component of many fellowships.

COMPENSATION

Financial compensation varies greatly and may include: a living allowance, housing stipend, healthcare coverage or student loan repayment assistance

FINDING FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Some fellowships can be found posted in the BCC (Bryant Career Connection).

Other resources include:

- [Profellow](#) – a fellowship database
- [Idealist](#) – Include the word “fellowships” in your search
- [Fastweb](#) – list of undergraduate fellowships
- [Collegescholarships](#) – list of funding resources for graduate school

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

The fellowship selection process is typically very competitive and deadlines are early. The application can be extensive and will most likely include: letters of recommendation, academic transcript, resume and a written essay. Interviews for final selection are likely.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- Plan ahead. All fellowship programs are looking for highly motivated students with records of academic excellence. Junior year is the time to start your research.
- Solicit assistance and expertise from faculty.