Adjustments to 2020 Internships and Funding

The evolving status of COVID-19 will be monitored by the university’s Emergency Management Executive Team, and implementation of the adjusted internship and funding plan will correspond to conditions, updates, and travel warnings in the weeks ahead. This document outlines adjusted timelines, hopes and assumptions for Summer 2020. (Published March 27, 2020)

Adjusted Funding Timeline and Expectations

- Funding deadline extended to April 15
- Funding decisions announced by May 1*
- Funded students return Internship Agreement and Release Form by May 5
- Stipends disbursed by May 15 (direct deposit only)

In prior summers, remote work for internships was not permitted. In recognition of the extraordinary situation due to the COVID-19 pandemic, students will be able to receive funding for Summer 2020 to participate in remote internship and research opportunities.

*All internships will be reassessed just prior to May 1. If the national COVID-19 situation has not substantially improved, University funding will only be allocated to approved REMOTE internships.

- If interning remotely full-time (32-40 hrs/wk), the stipend will be $250 a week, maximum $2000;
- if interning remotely part-time (10-20 hrs/wk), the stipend will be $125 a week, maximum $1000.
- If interning on-site, internship is expected to be full-time; the stipend will be $375 a week, maximum $3000.

ACE Internships and non-ACE Internships

ACE Sponsors (alumni, parents, and friends offering internship opportunities through the Career Center) have been asked if their internship can be performed remotely, if necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic, and they will be asked to move any possible on-site internship starting dates to June 1.

Students who have secured non-ACE internships should ask if work can be performed remotely, if necessitated by COVID-19, and will ask their sponsor to submit an updated letter/email of confirmation or confirmation form that indicates the internship will be performed remotely.

International Internships and Research Opportunities

Funding decisions for Summer 2020 international experiences will be determined based on U.S. State Department and CDC travel warnings as well as by University review. Students who have planned to intern or conduct research internationally are encouraged to seek domestic opportunities.
Research Opportunities
It is possible that research opportunities may occur on campus for students who secured those opportunities through the March 1 application process. The final decision about on-campus research will be made on May 1, and the research will begin on campus no earlier than June 1. The usual SURF programming will be discontinued for Summer 2020 to reduce group gatherings and increase safety for all participants.

If Sewanee faculty members offer additional (not originally planned) remote research opportunities, students may apply for funding by April 15.

If it is determined on May 1 that on-campus research opportunities cannot be permitted for students and faculty can convert the research assistantship to a remote opportunity, approved students will be funded using the stipend formula shared in the Adjusted Funding Timeline and Expectations section (above).

Exception: If a student was approved in February or March to remain on campus, that student may continue to participate in a research opportunity beginning June 1 if the opportunity is still available and approved.

On-Campus Summer Employment
University departments will not post the usual number and range of summer employment opportunities for students. Postings requiring specialized skills may still occur.