

Report on the Implementation of the Washington Center Internship Scholarship Program September 1, 2024

Background.

The Washington Center Internship Scholarship Program was enacted in Sec. 8A.8 of S.L. 2021-180, amended in Sec. 8A.7 of S.L. 2022-74, and Sec. 8A.1 of S.L. 2023-134. The Program awards scholarship grants to students who are residents of North Carolina and who are enrolled in their second year or higher in a UNC constituent institution to attend a semester or summer term internship program or a shortened one to four week public policy and career readiness seminar at the [Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars](#) located in Washington, D.C. Students participating in the Washington Center's program are required to: 1) intern four days a week with a nonprofit corporation, private company, federal agency, or a member of the United States Congress; 2) take an academic class taught by the Washington Center's faculty; 3) participate in career readiness training programs; and 4) be responsible for a final portfolio project outlining work completed during the program. Students from all academic majors can participate and benefit from the program.

Session Law 2023-134 appropriated an additional \$250,000 in non-recurring funds for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 fiscal years to support the scholarship program. Funds appropriated for scholarships do not revert and remain available for scholarships in subsequent years. Grants are for the following amounts:

Semester term internships	Up to \$10,000
Summer term internships	Up to \$8,000
Shortened seminar programs	Up to \$4,000

The State Education Assistance Authority (SEAA) administers the scholarship program pursuant to guidelines and procedures established by SEAA consistent with its practices for administering State-funded financial aid. The guidelines and procedures include an application process and schedule, notification and disbursement procedures, standards for reporting, and standards for return of funds when a student withdraws from the program. SEAA is required to ensure that the amount of all grants and scholarship aid covering the cost of attendance not exceed the cost of attendance for the program, including program fees, housing, and incidental costs.

2023-2024 Use of Scholarship Funds.

The cost of attendance is established by SEAA in accordance with information provided by the Washington Center. For the 2023-2024 academic year, the cost of attendance varied depending upon the program.

Internship Program	Number of Participating Students	UNC Constituent Institution	Scholarship Amount Per Student	Totals
Semester Term-Fall 2023				
Workforce Readiness Program-Fall 2023	43		\$1,945	
		21 Fayetteville State University		\$40,845
		1 NC A & T		\$1,945
		2 UNC-Ashville		\$3,890
		1 UNC-Chapel Hill		\$1,945
		1 UNC-Charlotte		\$1,945

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Internship Program	Number of Participating Students	UNC Constituent Institution		Scholarship Amount Per Student	Totals
		9	UNC-Greensboro		\$17,505
		8	Western Carolina University		\$15,560
Semester Term-Spring 2024					
Inside Washington Seminar-January 2024	52	\$2,595			
		5	NC A & T		\$12,975
		14	UNC-Charlotte		\$36,330
		16	UNC-Greensboro		\$41,520
		17	Winston-Salem State University		\$44,115
National Security Seminar-May 2024	10	10	UNC-Charlotte	\$2,295	\$22,950
Summer Term Internships					
National Security Seminar-May 2024	8				
		1	Winston-Salem State University	\$8,000	\$8,000
		6	UNC-Greensboro (4) & Winston Salem State University (2)	\$5,882	\$35,292
		1	UNC-Greensboro	\$888	\$888
2023-2024 Totals	113				\$285,705