Guaranteed. Through The Richmond Guarantee, every continuing, full-time, degree-seeking, undergraduate student in good standing in the School of Arts & Sciences, Jepson School of Leadership Studies, or Robins School of Business is eligible for a fellowship of up to $4,000 for one summer research or internship experience before they graduate. Many of these experiences are funded through the UR Summer Fellowships program, which offers students the opportunity to pursue the research or internship experience that best complements their academic pursuits — in any field of endeavor, and in any part of the world. Through faculty-mentored research experiences, students pursue intellectual discovery while also gaining the laboratory, field, or archival experience needed to secure admission and fellowships to top graduate programs. Summer internships challenge students to apply what they’ve learned in new settings while obtaining the experience necessary to pursue their professional goals.

WHO ARE UR SUMMER FELLOWS?
In summer 2018, more than 550 students received fellowships, totaling more than $2 million. Here’s a look at our most recent student fellows.

- 24% students of color
- 15% first-generation students
- 13% international students
- 6% varsity athletes

AWARDS BY UR SUMMER FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM

- 42% Spider Internship Funds
- 27% A&S Summer Research Fellowships
- 21% Civic Fellowships
- 17% Jepson Summer Research Grants
- 15% Robins Summer Research Fellowship
- 1% Burrus Fellowship
- 1% Jepson Summer Internships
- 1% Urban Education Fellowships
- 1% Chapel Summer Internships

AWARDS BY CLASS YEAR

- 43% juniors
- 39% sophomores
- 14% first-year students
- 4% seniors

AWARDS BY SCHOOL

- 78% School of Arts & Sciences
- 15% Robins School of Business
- 7% Jepson School of Leadership Studies

$3,611 average award
$3,868 average RESEARCH award
$3,355 average INTERNSHIP award
Students receive fellowships to pursue a wide variety of experiences including developing content for Sony Music Entertainment, responding to constituent concerns in the office of the Mayor of Detroit, and conducting faculty-mentored research on the effects of climate change on vulnerable communities in the Bahamas.

Read more stories from UR Summer Fellows at ursf.richmond.edu.

Chris Cassella, ’20
Major: Politics, Philosophy, Economics & Law, Political Science
URSF: A&S Research Fellowship, Mass Shootings and Their Effect on American Life

Chris Cassella, ’20, grew up in Orange, Conn., about 30 miles from Newton, where the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting took place in 2012. As a politics, philosophy, economics, and law (PPEL) and political science double major, Casella saw the A&S Summer Fellowship program as a chance to research mass shootings and their impact, a topic that means a great deal to him. “The research fellowship was a great opportunity to answer questions about why shootings happen, what have we done about them, and since they keep happening, what we do in the future?”

Katherine Patetta, ’19
URSF: Burrus Fellowship, The Broad

Katherine Patetta, ’19, interned at The Broad, the first cooperative working space and social club in Virginia that is designed specifically for women and gender minorities. “From my time working here, I’ve learned how running a new business is genuinely an all hands-on-deck kind of situation. It has been very valuable working with [my boss] and seeing how much of an impact her successful business is making on the community and women.”

Hunter Moyler, ’19
Major: English, Journalism
URSF: A&S Research Fellowship, The Lost Cause Myth in Literature and Film

“The Lost Cause,” is an ideological movement that describes the Confederate cause as an honorable struggle for the southern way of life, while minimizing or denying the central role of slavery. Hunter Moyler, ’19, wanted to learn more about the Civil War, and why it’s still a controversial topic today, so for his A&S Summer Fellowship, he studied the impact of “Lost Cause” literature and film. “[I tried] to determine how these works, which idealize a certain way of life, have convinced others, even up to present day, that this sort of rhetoric and these sorts of ideals are accepted.”

Alexandra Smith, ’19
Major: International Studies: World Politics & Diplomacy, Italian Studies
URSF: Spider Internship Fund, USAID Bureau for Food Security

Before interning, Alexandra Smith, ’19, had a lot of questions about what it meant to work in international development. Through her internship with USAID Bureau for Food Security, Smith was able to, “gain hands-on knowledge that you simply cannot gain in a classroom.” She said, “after this internship, I gained a well-rounded understanding of what it means to work for the federal government. By working at USAID, I learned about international development from the different perspectives of the U.S. Government, NGOs, private sector, and the governments receiving aid. I assisted in coordinating officials from II government agencies throughout the production of the Global Food Security Strategy Implementation report. I am thrilled that I was able to expand my knowledge of American diplomacy beyond the classroom and gain hands-on experience through my internship.”