



# **University of North Carolina School of Social Work**

## **External Funding Guide**

*Last Updated: July 2023*



# Resources and Scholarship Information

- UNC Affiliated:..... 2
- Global Opportunities:..... 3
- Social Work Organizations: ..... 4
- State Government:..... 5
- Federal Government: ..... 5
- Scholarship Databases:..... 6
- Aid for Study Abroad/International Work: ..... 7
- Service Organizations: ..... 7
- Underrepresented Student Funding: ..... 8
- Undocumented Students Funding: ..... 9
- International Students Funding: ..... 10
- Other: ..... 11

## UNC Affiliated:

[Buckley Public Service Scholars](#): BPSS graduate assistants receive a \$600 stipend per semester. Recipients are required provide two skills training seminar (one seminar per semester) and review Senior BPSS portfolios.

[Carolina Center for Public Service](#): Administers grants, fellowships, awards, and scholarships for work in public service and engaged scholarship. Available to undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, and staff.

[Community Engagement Fellowship](#): The Community Engagement Fellowship program awards a maximum of eight fellowships of up to \$2,500 each year to develop and implement engagement or engaged scholarship projects are responsive to community priorities and have an academic connection. Returning, full-time graduate students (individuals or teams) at UNC-Chapel Hill are eligible to apply. The fellowships run from March-November with project implementation occurring during the summer.

[Funding Information Portal: Social Work](#): This guide provides funding resources for masters, doctoral, and international students as comprised from the COS database within the Funding Information Portal regarding Social Work. These resources are updated weekly. Must have a UNC Onyen and Password to access.

[Graduate School Funding](#): Information on fellowships, assistantships, scholarships, and grants offered to UNC graduate students.

[UNC Office of Scholarships & Financial Aid](#): Gives information on funding information for the entire university.

## UNC Global Opportunities

[Critical Language Scholarship Program](#): With the goal of broadening the base of Americans studying and mastering critical languages and to build relationships between the people of the United States and other countries, this scholarship provides fully funded intensive language study during the summer to a diverse group of students from across the United States at every level of language learning.

[Foreign Language & Area Studies](#): This fellowship provides funding for graduate students interested in learning uncommon foreign languages. During the academic year, students can receive up to a \$15,000 stipend plus tuition and fees for the academic year and are required to take one language and one area of studies per semester. During the summer, students can receive a \$2,500 stipend and up to \$5,000 for tuition and fees for approved intensive summer language courses in the U.S. or abroad.

[Fulbright U.S. Student Program](#): The Fulbright U.S. Student Program allows graduating seniors, master's students, doctoral candidates, and recent graduates to self-design a research/study project, or serve as an English Teaching Assistant in one of more than 160 countries.

[Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad](#): This grant is available to Ph.D. candidates who wish to engage in full-time dissertation research abroad in modern foreign languages and area studies. Projects focusing on Western Europe are not eligible for funding. The grant provides travel expenses, maintenance allowance for the grantee and the grantee's dependents, books and other research-related expenses and health insurance.

[Global Partnership Awards](#): Global Partnership Awards are designed to make a catalytic impact on partnerships between UNC-Chapel Hill and international institutions, typically colleges or universities. Awards are made to support Carolina faculty, staff and graduate students who engage in or develop opportunities for collaborative activity with colleagues at a partner institution, with preference given to proposals that include designated UNC-Chapel Hill strategic or key partners (although applications can involve other international institutions). Max of \$4,000 per award.

[CFK Peacock Fellowship](#): The CFK Africa Peacock Fellowship offers UNC students the opportunity to apply their skills and talents to engage in participatory research and development in Kenya. Fellows will

work directly with Kenyan staff to strengthen our programs, contribute relevant skills and expertise, implement new strategies, and provide mutual benefit to the organization and fellow. The year-long fellowship begins in the spring semester with project formulation, collaborating with CFK staff in the US and Kenya. In the summer, fellows will travel to Nairobi, Kenya and spend at least eight weeks implementing their project or carrying out their work. During the fall semester, fellows will complete final reports and engage in campus outreach activities to help raise awareness of CFK's global impact. The fellowship provides a stipend of \$6,000 for graduate-level students and \$4,000 for undergraduate-level students to support the costs of international airfare, in-country transport, and housing.

[The Kenan Biddle Partnership Grant](#). This grant is funded by the William R Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust and the Mary Duke Biddle Foundation and promotes collaboration between UNC and Duke students. The Partnership awards grants up to \$5,000 to projects led by students at both universities. Applicant proposals should present an initiative that address social or environmental needs in their campus communities, the Triangle, or beyond. This opportunity is open to both undergraduate and graduate students. Note that this is a collaborative opportunity between UNC and Duke, so teams must involve students from both institutions. Past projects have fallen into categories such as: arts, education, public health, athletics, socioeconomic development, clean technology and energy, and food.

## Social Work Organizations:

[American Board of Examiners in Clinical Social Work](#): The American Board of Examiners in Clinical Social Work awards its Judith Holm Memorial Student Awards to exceptional final-year graduate students in social work. The awards are granted on the basis of a contest in which final-year graduate students submit clinical papers for the Center's review. To qualify for the award, you must be a final-year graduate student in a qualified social work program, and you must be intending on becoming a clinical social worker upon graduation. The clinical paper you submit must be based on an intervention that takes place during your final-year field placement assignment.

[Council on Social Work Education](#): CSWE provides a number of funding opportunities for students and faculty members.

[NASW Advocacy for Loan Forgiveness](#): Updated information on loan forgiveness opportunities for Social Workers from NASW.

[NASW Scholarships](#): Information on scholarships available through the NASW Foundation.

[National Association of Black Social Workers \(NABSW\) Scholarship](#): Scholarships available to Black students who are paid active members of NABSW.

[Social Work Scholarships](#): Here are just some of the many websites and programs dedicated to helping you pay for your Social Work Master's degree. This site includes a variety of scholarships for students

with marginalized identities, military service members, women, fraternity and sorority members, and more.

## State Government:

[North Carolina Forgivable Education Loans for Service \(FELS\)](#): This forgivable loan is for North Carolina residents who wish to provide needed services for North Carolina residents. Part time and full-time graduate students can receive up to \$14,000 a year. After graduation, if recipients work for one-year full time or two years part time in a needed field, their loan can be forgiven. If recipients choose to work in a different field, they must repay the loan.

[NCSEAA Loan Forgiveness Programs](#): The North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority offers several forgivable loan programs.

[Social Workers' Education Loan Fund Undergraduate and Graduate Programs \(SWELF\)](#): The purpose of the SWELF is to provide a competitive, merit-based scholarship loan program available to students who desire to enter the social work profession and to practice as a public child welfare social worker after earning the baccalaureate or master's degree in social work. Financial need is not a criterion for selection as a recipient.

[NC DHHS Office of Rural Health State Loan Repayment Program](#): This program helps mental health providers provide primary and psychiatric care to people in rural and underserved areas. The Office of Rural Health Placement team works to identify opportunities to practice in an integrated care setting that matches the providers personal and professional needs with community needs. Based on the amount of relevant educational loans, hours worked per week, and working at an integrated care site, SLRP offers educational loan repayment awards up to \$50,000.00. The awards are granted in exchange for a three-year service commitment in a team-based setting that provides access to comprehensive behavioral health services to rural communities with a Health Professional Shortage Area score of 15 or above; i.e., an integrated primary/behavioral health care setting.

## Federal Government:

[Air Force Health Professions Scholarship](#): The Air Force Health Professions Scholarship is an opportunity for social workers to serve your country and attend school debt free. Air Force social workers make a difference in the quality of life of the Air Force community. As an Air Force social worker, you will work with individuals, families and groups of people of all ages. You'll use your skills in mental health, medical, correctional, family advocacy, community-based, and Exceptional Family Member Programs. While on Active Duty with the Air Force, medical professionals (including social workers) may practice in a small, medium, or large clinical setting. Scholarship recipients will receive 100% of tuition paid by the Air Force (including all required fees, textbooks, supplies and small equipment) as well as a monthly

stipend. While on scholarship, you will spend 45 days on active duty in the Air Force, and once you graduate, you will serve one year of active duty for each year of scholarship, serving a minimum of three years.

[Direct PLUS Loans](#): The U.S. Department of Education makes Direct PLUS Loans to eligible parents and graduate or professional students through schools participating in the Direct Loan Program. The maximum PLUS loan amount you can receive is the cost of attendance (determined by the school) minus any other financial aid received.

[Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#): Financial aid available to all students.

[Loan Repayment/Cancellation/Forgiveness/Discharge](#): Under certain circumstances, your student loan, or a portion of your loan, may be cancelled, forgiven, or discharged (in other words, you won't have to repay it). This website has a list of conditions for which this may apply.

[National Institute of Health Loan Forgiveness for Researchers](#): This program is for Social Workers and other professionals who are pursuing research careers in the areas of clinical, pediatric, contraception and infertility, or health disparities. Participants must possess a doctoral-level degree, devote 50% or more of their time to research funded by a non-profit organization or government entity (federal, state, or local), and have educational loan debt equal to or exceeding 20% of their institutional base salary.

[Public Service Loan Forgiveness](#): A loan forgiveness program for public service employees with Federal Direct Loan Program loans. You may be eligible to have the interest and principal for your non-defaulted loans forgiven if you made 120 monthly payments on the eligible loans after October 1, 2007 and are employed in a public-service job (emergency management, government, military service, public safety, law enforcement, public health, public education, social work in a public child or family service agency, public interest law services, early childhood education, and public services for individuals with disabilities or for the elderly) during the 120-month period.

[U.S. Department of Education](#): Information from the Department of Education on available financial aid and grants.

## Scholarship Databases:

[FastWeb](#): Most of the information and aid are for undergraduates; however, there are a few scholarships for which graduates may be eligible.

[FinAid – The Smart Student Guide to Financial Aid](#): Scholarship search engine, information on loans, and other aid information.

[Peterson's](#): Graduate specific funding.

[Unigo](#): Scholarship search engine.

[Scholarships.com](#): Most of the scholarships and aid are for undergraduates, however, that are some scholarships for graduate students as well.

## Aid for Study Abroad/International Work:

[Boren Awards](#): Boren Fellowships provide up to \$25,000 to U.S. graduate students to add an important international and language component to their graduate education through specialization in area study, language study, or increased language proficiency. Boren Fellowships support study and research in areas of the world that are critical to U.S. interests, including Africa, Asia, Central & Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Latin American, and the Middle East. The countries of Western Europe, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand are excluded. Boren Fellows represent a variety of academic and professional disciplines, but all are interested in studying less commonly taught languages, including but not limited to Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian and Swahili.

[Hispanic Scholarship Fund Graduate Scholarships](#): Founded in 1975, the Hispanic Scholarship Fund provides scholarships to Latinx students, as well as related support services. HSF seeks to give students all the tools they need to apply to college, do well in their course work, graduate, enter a profession, excel, help lead our nation going forward, and mentor the generations to come. As the nation's largest not-for-profit organization supporting Hispanic American higher education, HSF has awarded over \$400 million in scholarships and provides a range of ancillary programs for candidates, scholars, and their families. HSF further strives to make college education a top priority for every Latinx family across the nation and to mobilize our community to proactively advance that goal – each individual, over a lifetime, in every way they can. Scholarship awards range from \$500 to \$5,000.

## Service Organizations:

[AmeriCorps](#): Serve for 12 months and receive a stipend in addition to funding to be used towards your loans or other education expenses. (Call 1-800-942-2677)

[Peace Corps](#): Volunteers may apply for deferment of Stafford, Perkins, and Consolidation loans and partial cancellation of Perkins Loans. (Call 855-855-1961)

[Carolina College Advising Corps](#): The Carolina College Advising Corps aims to help low-income, first generation, and under-represented North Carolinian high school students attend a college that will serve them well by placing college advisers in public high schools throughout the state. Benefits include a living allowance, free health insurance, an education award for each year of service which can be credited towards loans from undergraduate education or held for future educational costs, professional development opportunities, and free graduate school opportunities with [Equity Fellows Program](#).

## Underrepresented Student Funding:

[Agnes Jones Jackson Scholarship](#): Scholarships available to current members of the NAACP who are under the age of 25 and demonstrate financial need based on the federal poverty guidelines.

[American Indian College Fund](#): Scholarships available to American Indian or Alaskan Native students pursuing a graduate degree. (Call 800-776-3863)

[American Indian Graduate Center](#): A national organization headquartered in Albuquerque, New Mexico providing educational assistance to American Indian and Alaska native graduate students throughout the country.

[American Indian Health Service Scholarship](#): The Health Professions scholarship provides financial aid to qualified American Indian and Alaska Native undergraduate- and graduate-level students. Recipients must be members of federally recognized Tribes and enrolled in an eligible health profession degree program. In exchange for financial aid, scholarship recipients agree to fulfill a service commitment in full-time clinical practice upon completion of their academic or post-graduate clinical training.

[Armenian International Women's Association Scholarships](#): The scholarships are awarded to full-time female students of Armenian descent attending accredited colleges or universities. Awards are based on financial need and merit.

[Association of Latino/Latina Social Work Educators](#): Funding to support the advancement of social work education amongst the Latino population.

[Congressional Black Caucus Foundation](#): Funding for qualified African-American students who reside or attend school in a CBC member district.

[Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Scholarship](#): Funding for Latino students with a history of performing public-service-oriented activities in their communities and who demonstrate a desire to continue their civic engagement in the future.

[Consuelo W. Gosnell Memorial MSW Scholarship](#): The Consuelo W. Gosnell Memorial Scholarships are awarded to master's degree candidates in social work who have demonstrated a commitment to working with, or who have a special affinity with, American Indian/Alaska Native and Hispanic/Latino populations. Candidates who have demonstrated a commitment to working with public or voluntary nonprofit agencies or with local grassroots groups in the United States are also eligible. Must be a member of the NASW.

[Hispanic Scholarship Fund](#): Scholarships available to Hispanic students pursuing a graduate degree.

[The Houtan Scholarship](#): Funding for students from all origins- Iranian and non- Iranian- with high academic performance and proven interest in promoting Iran's great culture, heritage, language and civilization.



[Japanese American Citizens League National Scholarships and Awards](#): Applicants must be an active National JACL member and plan to attend school full time.

[Korean American Scholarship Foundation](#): Provides funding to students with a Korean heritage.

[La Unidad Latina Foundation](#): Funding for student leaders who are civically minded and enrolled in an accredited college or university.

[NASW Foundation](#): The Verne LaMarr Lyons Memorial Scholarship is awarded to a master's degree candidate in social work who demonstrates an interest in, or has experience with, health/mental health practice and has a commitment to working in the African American community. Six scholarships in the amount of \$4,333 are awarded annually. Must be an NASW member.

[National Federation of the Blind Scholarship Program](#): Funding is awarded to students who are legally blind in both eyes. The scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic excellence, community service and leadership.

[Native Foundation Scholars Fund](#): Largest direct scholarship provider to Native students in the U.S. They award approximately \$15 million in scholarships annually and have awarded over \$350 million since inception. Native Forward Scholars Fund has empowered over 20,000 students from over 500 Tribes in all 50 states by providing scholarship dollars and support services for undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees.

[Navajo Nation Graduate Fellowship](#): Navajo Nation Graduate Fellowship is established to provide financial assistance in the form of grant awards to eligible Navajo students wishing to attend or attending graduate school, utilizing the Navajo Nation Graduate Trust Fund.

[The Point Foundation: The National LGBTQ Scholarship Fund](#): Point Foundation empowers promising LGBTQ students to achieve their full academic and leadership potential – despite the obstacles often put before them – to make a significant impact on society.

## Undocumented Students Funding:

[Paul & Daisy Soros for New Americans](#): The Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans program provides scholarships to 30 “New Americans” – immigrants and children of immigrants- who are poised to make significant contributions to US society, culture, or their academic field.

[La Unidad Latina Foundation](#): La Unidad Latina Foundation provides resources for higher education financial aid and scholarships available to Latinx students.

[Hispanic Scholarship Fund](#): The Hispanic Scholarship Fund exists to assist students of Hispanic heritage obtain a higher education degree.

[LNEESC Scholarship](#): LNEESC provides a number of important scholarship opportunities, which include awards that range in award amount and have varying eligibility criteria. Some scholarships are available to all post-secondary students regardless of major while others are available to students pursuing specific degrees.

[AES Engineering Scholarship](#): Scholarships are intended for future leaders across a wide spectrum of fields of study. Funding is awarded on the basis of character, as determined by an evaluation of the essays that are submitted.

## International Students Funding:

[Aga Khan Foundation](#): The Aga Khan Foundation provides a limited number of scholarships each year for postgraduate studies to outstanding students from select developing countries who have no other means of financing their studies, in order to develop effective scholars and leaders and to prepare them for employment, primarily within the AKDN.

[Civil Society Leadership Awards, Open Society Foundations](#): Funding for students who clearly demonstrate academic and professional excellence and a deep commitment to leading positive social change in their communities; to become future leaders in countries where civil society is challenged by a deficit of democratic practice in local governance and social development.

[Duke-UNC Rotary Peace Center](#): Each year the Center selects and trains Rotary Peace Fellows based on their ability to have a significant, positive impact on world peace and conflict resolution during their future careers.

[Fulbright Foreign Student Program](#): The Fulbright Foreign Student program offers opportunities for foreign graduate students to study, conduct research and/or teach in their native language in the U.S.

[Margaret McNamara Memorial Fund](#): The Margaret McNamara Memorial Fund awards grants to women from developing and middle-income countries to further their education and strengthen the professional and leadership skills they need to improve the lives of women and children.

[Organization of American States \(OAS\)](#): Funding for students pursuing studies and research related to the eight priority areas contemplated in the OAS.

[Philanthropic Educational Organization International Peace Scholarship](#): Funding for international female students pursuing graduate education in the United States and Canada.

## Other:

[Alpha Kappa Alpha Scholarship](#): The scholarship provides funding for students demonstrating good academic standing and engagement in community service.

[American Association of University Women \(AAUW\) Educational Funding and Awards](#): One of the world's largest sources of funding for graduate women, AAUW is providing more than \$6 million in funding for more than 320 fellowships and grants to outstanding women and nonprofit organizations. Due to the longstanding, generous contributions of AAUW members, a broader community of women continues to gain access to educational and economic opportunities — breaking through barriers so that all women have a fair chance. Fellowship and grant recipients perform research in a wide range of disciplines and work to improve their schools and communities. Their intellect, dedication, imagination, and effort promise to forge new paths in scholarship, improve the quality of life for all, and tackle the educational and social barriers facing women worldwide.

[Byron Hanke Fellowship](#): The Byron Hanke Fellowship is available to graduate students working on topics related to community associations. Fellows are expected to prepare a research paper on community associations on one of the topics listed below.

[Davis-Putter Scholarship Fund](#): The Davis-Putter Scholarship Fund provides grants to students actively working for peace and justice. These need-based scholarships are awarded to those able to do academic work at the university level and who are a part of the progressive movement on the campus and in the community. Early recipients worked for civil rights, against McCarthyism, and for peace in Vietnam. Recent grantees have been active in the struggle against racism, sexism, homophobia, and other forms of oppression; building the movement for economic justice; and creating peace through international anti-imperialist solidarity.

[Harvey Fellows Program](#): Initiated by the Mustard Seed Foundation in 1992 and now overseen by the 28twelve Foundation, the Harvey Fellows Program seeks to mark, equip and encourage Christian individuals to actively integrate their faith and vocation as leaders in strategic occupations.

[JCCs of North America Graduate Scholarship Program](#): JCC Association's Professional Development Scholarship Program is designed to help current, full-time JCC professionals deepen and enhance their professional knowledge to advance their career at a Jewish Community Center or Jewish Community Camp (JCC). Recipients must be pursuing their first master's degree, commit to work at a JCC post-graduation for at least two years and complete a field placement at a JCC during their studies.

[Leopold Schepp Foundation Scholarship](#): The Leopold Schepp Foundation awards educational scholarships to full time undergraduate and graduate students who demonstrate a combination of fine character, academic excellence, financial need, compassion, a commitment to volunteerism and whose goal will benefit mankind.

[Mapping Your Future](#): Information on finding financial aid, managing undergraduate loans, and options and conditions of loan repayment, cancellation, forgiveness, or discharge.

[North Carolina Council of Epsilon Sigma Alpha Scholarship](#): Providing scholarships to individuals training for work with exceptional children, excluding the academically gifted.

[Mike and Gail Donley Spouse Scholarship, Air Force Association](#): Provides scholarships to spouses of Air Force Active Duty, Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve or Department of the Air Force Civilian employee to be eligible. Spouses who are themselves Air Force personnel, or in ROTC, are not eligible.

[Minority Fellowship Program for Addiction Counselors \(NMFP-AC\)](#): The Association for Addiction Professionals offers the NMFP-AC to students in a master's program earning a certificate or license in substance abuse studies. The purpose of the NMFP-AC is to address health disparities related to addiction amongst underserved populations (i.e., LGBT populations, youth, and minority populations). Students may be eligible for a stipend up to \$15,000. Please note you must be eligible to graduate within 12 months in order to be eligible for this fellowship program.

[National Association of Junior Auxiliaries, Inc. Graduate Scholarship Program](#): Founded in 1962, the NAJA Graduate Scholarship Program has awarded more than 579 grants totaling over \$1,437,504.00 for graduate study in fields which address the special needs of children and youth.

[North Carolina Albert Schweitzer Fellowship](#): The Schweitzer Fellowship is a one-year interdisciplinary, mentored fellowship program focused on health-related community service and leadership development. The mission of the US Schweitzer Fellows program is to prepare the next generation of professionals to serve and empower vulnerable people to live healthier lives and create healthier communities.

[Pat Tillman Scholar](#): Tillman scholars receive financial aid which will cover tuition, living expenses, and additional educational expenses. Applicants must be an active duty service member, veteran, or military spouse attending a fulltime undergraduate or graduate program.

[The Paul & Daisy Soros Fellowships for New Americans](#): Privately funded to provide opportunities for continuing generations of able and accomplished new Americans to achieve leadership in their chosen fields. Eligible applicants include individuals who (1) are resident aliens (i.e., hold a Green Card), or (2) have been naturalized as U.S. citizens, or (3) are children of two parents born outside the United States with at least one parent now a naturalized citizen.

[Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship](#): A Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship is a 2 – 4 year scholarship that focuses support in Education, Housing, Mentoring, Employment, Career & Networking Assistance and Financial Planning to severely wounded or injured post 9-11 veterans who are pursuing their higher education after transitioning from the military.

[Society for Public Health Education Student Member Fellowships and Awards](#): There are a number of different scholarships and fellowships available to members of SOPHE.

[Student Loan Borrower Assistance](#): National Consumer Law Center's Student Loan Borrower Assistance Project is a resource for borrowers, their families, and advocates representing student loan borrowers. This site is for people who already have student loans and want to know more about their options and rights.