



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

## **External Funding Guide**

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### UNC Affiliated

[Buckley Public Service Scholars](#): BPSS graduate assistants receive a \$2000 stipend. Recipients are required to propose and facilitate a skills training three times each semester and participate in some other aspect of the program, such as co-facilitating a BPSS participant orientation, attending the BPSS senior dinner, or helping with the review process of BPSS senior 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](#): This guide provides resources to help UNC graduate students find and apply for funding. Resources have been tagged with a suggested audience and disciplinary area, but all members of UNC are welcome to use any resource on this site.

[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.

[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 of being an advisor 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 graduate school and career exploration opportunities.

## UNC Global Opportunities

[Critical Language Scholarship Program](#): The Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) Program is an intensive overseas language and cultural immersion program open to undergraduate and graduate students. Students spend 8-10 weeks abroad, studying one of 14 critical languages and engaging in cultural enrichment opportunities. Participants from a variety of fields of study are selected based on their commitment to language learning and plans to apply their developed language skills to their future academic and professional choices.

[Foreign Language & Area Studies](#): This fellowship provides funding for students interested in learning uncommon foreign languages. During the academic year, graduate students will receive a \$20,000 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 receive a \$3,500 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 for six to 12 months. 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 create and sustain meaningful relationships with international partner institutions (typically a college or university). 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. These activities may include collaborative research, organizing workshops to engage partner faculty and grad students, and serving on graduate student committees. Exploration Grants are up to

\$2000, and Expansion Grants are up to \$8,000. Graduate students are not eligible to apply but may receive funds as part of a faculty application.

[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 Nairobi, Kenya. Fellows will work directly with Kenyan staff to strengthen CFK programs, contribute relevant skills and expertise, implement new strategies, and provide mutual benefit to the organization and fellow. Fellows will travel to Nairobi, Kenya and spend at least eight weeks in the summer implementing their project or carrying out their work. Pre-departure, students will develop a project plan with CFK Africa staff in the US and Kenya and participate in a pre-departure orientation. Upon return, fellows complete final reports and engage in campus outreach activities to help raise awareness of CFK Africa's 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.

## 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. This is a one-time award of \$2,000.

[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 and Fellowships](#): 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](#): This site includes a variety of scholarships for students with marginalized identities, military service members, women, fraternity and sorority members, and more. This page was last updated in January 2020, but many scholarships are awarded yearly and contain links to the most recent information.

[Top 25 Scholarships for Social Workers](#): A compiled list of 25 social work scholarships and/or funding resources. Some links are expired but still give good information.

## 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.

[North Carolina Community Foundation](#): This organization currently manages nearly 150 scholarship funds for students throughout the state. Aside from a few separate scholarships, a universal application is used by most scholarships, and students will be matched to the opportunities they are eligible for.

[Triangle Community Foundation Database](#): TCF offers a wide variety of scholarship opportunities each with a unique set of eligibility and different funding amounts.

## Federal Government

[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.

[National Institute of Health Loan Forgiveness for Researchers](#): The NIH Loan Repayment Programs (LRPs) are a set of programs established by Congress and designed to recruit and retain highly qualified health professionals into biomedical or biobehavioral research careers. The LRPs repay up to \$50,000 annually of a researcher's qualified educational debt in return for a commitment to engage in NIH mission-relevant research.

[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.

[ExploreHealthCareers.org](#): Database with information about over 3.5 million scholarships.

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

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

[Unigo](#): Scholarship search engine.

[Scholarships.com](#): Most of the scholarships and aid are for undergraduates; however, there 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. 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)

## Underrepresented Student Funding

[NAACP](#): Need-based and merit-based scholarships available to outstanding and qualified Black students pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees. Applicants must be a member of the NAACP.

[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.

[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.

[Cobell Scholarship](#): Merit-based scholarships for enrolled members of U.S. federally-recognized tribes pursuing a master's (MA, MS), doctoral (PhD, EdD, etc.), or professional (MD, JD, etc.) degree.

[Gamma Mu Foundation](#): The Gamma Mu Foundation Scholarship Program supports gay men pursuing higher education at colleges, universities, or vocational and professional training programs. Since 2016, the program has expanded to offer two additional scholarships — The Folisi & Goodwin Scholarship in Memory of Ray Williams and The Phil Papel Memorial Scholarship—which are open to students from the broader LGBTQ+ community. These scholarships provide financial assistance for various educational paths, including vocational and technical training, associate degrees, bachelor's degrees, and graduate programs.

[Hispanic Scholarship Fund](#): Scholarships available to Hispanic students pursuing a graduate degree. Every year, HSF selects 10,000 outstanding students as HSF Scholars who may be eligible to receive a scholarship, ranging from \$500-\$5,000.

[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 studying in the United States regardless of citizenship status.

[La Unidad Latina Foundation](#): Funding for undergraduate and graduate Latino students ranging from \$500 to \$2,000 per recipient.

[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. 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. All applicants must be able to demonstrate Tribal affiliation through a Tribal Eligibility Certificate (TEC) and submit a Financial Needs Form (FNF). Awards can vary, ranging from \$100 to \$30,000 per academic year.



[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

[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.

[Paul & Daisy Soros for New Americans](#): The Paul & Daisy Soros Fellowships for New Americans provides merit-based funding for New Americans, immigrants and children of immigrants, who are poised to make significant contributions to US culture, society and academia. 30 awards are available, and each Fellow receives up to \$90,000 in financial support over two years.

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

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

[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.

## International Students Funding

[Aga Khan Foundation](#): The Aga Khan Foundation's International Scholarship Programme (AKF ISP) is an opportunity for outstanding scholars from selected countries, who have no other means of financing their studies, to pursue postgraduate education.

[Open Society Foundations](#): The Open Society Foundations award grants and fellowships throughout the year to organizations and individuals who share Open Society values. They look for grantees who have a vision and whose efforts will lead to lasting social change. Some open funding opportunities are listed on their website, and others are available through Open Society's network of national and regional foundations.

[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. Up to 10 fellowships for master's level studies are offered annually at the Duke-UNC Rotary Peace Center.

[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 \(OAS\)](#): Scholarships for undergraduate and graduate-level studies, short-term professional training courses and innovative online training opportunities for citizens/permanent residents of the OAS Member States. Its goal is to increase access to affordable quality higher education for citizens of the Americas and support member states.

[Philanthropic Educational Organization International Peace Scholarship](#): The P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship Fund (IPS) is a fund established in 1949 to provide scholarships for women from other countries for graduate study in the U.S. or Canada. The maximum award amount is \$12,500.

## 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 provides funding for 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. These exceptional recipients will pursue academic work and lead innovative community projects to empower women and girls.

[Byron Hanke Fellowship](#): The Byron Hanke Fellowship is available to graduate students working on topics related to community associations. Fellows can receive a stipend of up to \$5,000 and are expected to prepare a research project on a scale appropriate for a master's thesis, doctoral dissertation, or a law review quality article.

[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 students who are enrolled at a college or university or in a trade or technical program and active in progressive movements. Grantees are doing work characterized by an opposition to capitalism, racism/white supremacy, hetero patriarchy and gender-based violence, environmental exploitation and/or other forms of systemic harm and oppression.

[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.

[Horatio Alger Association Scholarships](#): Horatio Alger Scholarships are intended for promising students who show academic achievement and leadership potential, critical financial need, demonstrate integrity and perseverance in overcoming adversity, and are determined to succeed. Graduate scholarships are currently available for Horatio Alger Scholars only.

[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). Depending upon the total amount of scholarship funding awarded, recipients may be required to continue to work for a JCC for a specific amount of time following completion of the education funded by JCC Association.

[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](#): The ESA Foundation is dedicated to the promotion of continuing education and to altruistic activities that make a positive difference in the world community.

[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). The program will administer up to 43 master's degree-level counseling fellowships of \$15,000 for addictions counseling students, plus the travel expenses to participate in other program-related trainings.

[National Association of Junior Auxiliaries, Inc. Graduate Scholarship Program](#): Founded in 1962, the NAJA Graduate Scholarship Program provides funding for applicants working or planning to work directly with children and pursuing graduate level studies 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. Fellows receive a \$3,000 stipend which may be for in any way they wish including personal expenses or project related costs.

[Pat Tillman Scholar](#): Tillman scholars receive funding for academic expenses, including tuition, books and living 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 are immigrants or children of immigrants. If an immigrant, applicants should be a naturalized US citizen, a green card holder, an asylee or refugee, or someone who graduated from both high school and college in the United States.

[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.

[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.