

## 2026 FORD DORSEY SUMMER INTERNSHIP FUND POLICY

MIP intends for students to work in a professional capacity during the summer between their first and second years. Students are encouraged to locate summer internships that provide work experience within MIP areas of specialization focusing on international policy issues. If a summer internship is unpaid or minimally paid, MIP provides up to a \$6,000 stipend for internships that comply with the 2026 Ford Dorsey Summer Internship Fund eligibility criteria. We encourage students who secure opportunities that meet the criteria to apply. The application period opens on February 15 and extends through June 30. Students should also apply for funding from Stanford or other sources for the summer (e.g., scholarships, fellowships, internship payments, programs, etc.)

If students obtain funding from other sources or receive minimal summer internship compensation, after first counting those amounts, up to \$6,000 of the Ford Dorsey Summer Internship Fund stipend is available, subject to a cap of \$11,150<sup>1</sup> after totaling all funding sources. There is one exception: the [FSI Global Policy Internship Program](#). The FSI Global Policy Internship program prohibits tapping other funding sources. If you secure an FSI Global Policy Internship, you may not be eligible for a Ford Dorsey Summer Internship Fund stipend.

Students are encouraged to consider applying if, for example, the internship does not meet MIP's criteria for professional experience or may not meet all of the other MIP criteria. MIP may relax the criteria on a case-by-case basis. Contact Lorena Fregoso ([lorenaa@stanford.edu](mailto:lorenaa@stanford.edu)) MIP Career Development and Alumni Engagement Manager, to discuss.

*This policy is subject to change due to evolving university policies and unforeseen circumstances. In particular, consult the [Stanford Travel Policy](#).*

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Student eligibility:
  - First-year MIP student
  - In good academic standing <sup>2</sup>
  - Continuing towards the completion of the MIP degree following the completion of the funded internship
- Eligible Internships:
  - Internships must have a job description, meaningful supervision, and substantive professional work responsibilities relevant to MIP studies
  - Internships must be unpaid or minimally paid
  - Internships may be in person or virtual, subject to updates in the Stanford Travel Policy
  - Internship work parameters:
    - Minimum of 10 weeks, acceptable range: 10 – 12 weeks
    - Minimum of 30 hours per week, acceptable range 30 – 40 hours a week
    - 2026 summer work period that begins after the end of the Spring quarter and ends at the beginning of the Autumn quarter

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<sup>1</sup> Estimated [student budget](#) (food, rent, transportation, and personal expenses) for three summer months, 2025-2026 academic year.

<sup>2</sup> This condition may be waived by the Associate and Assistant Directors for Academic and Student Affairs.

## APPROVAL AND FUNDING CRITERIA

- An approved 2026 Ford Dorsey Summer Internship Fund documentation package, which includes a statement that the stipend will only be used for the purposes specified in this policy.
- Any income received from other sources (e.g., fellowships, internship stipends, programs, etc.) for the internship and minimally compensated positions will be factored in to determine the amount of the Ford Dorsey Summer Internship Fund stipend that is made available.
- Up to a \$6,000 stipend will be made available after first counting funds from other sources, subject to an upper limit of \$11,150.
- Not eligible for funding: independent research, coursework (including language courses), training.

## FORD DORSEY SUMMER INTERNSHIP FUND PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS

- Students should seek out other sources of funding and compensation opportunities and rely on those first.
- Email Lorena Fregoso ([lorenaa@stanford.edu](mailto:lorenaa@stanford.edu)) and request a personalized Google folder and an application form link.
- Students submit the 2026 Ford Dorsey Summer Internship Fund Google Form, which requests internship details and specifies student funding requirements. Students are asked to enter estimates of summer 2026 living expenses (e.g., lodging, food, personal expenses, and travel expenses as applicable.) For consideration, students must fill out this [Google form](#)
- Other documents that must be submitted by uploading them to your designated Google folder are an email/letter from your supervisor outlining internship details, a signed copy of the Stanford University Assumption of Risk Release of Claims and Hold Harmless Agreement and a signed copy of this Policy. When you upload all required documents, email Lorena Fregoso ([lorenaa@stanford.edu](mailto:lorenaa@stanford.edu)) to let her know your package is complete.
- MIP may contact the internship supervisor to confirm internship details. An MIP faculty and staff committee will review the completed applications and decide on approval. The targeted timing for sharing the decision is one week, subject to receiving the supervisor's confirmation.
- Students whose applications are approved will receive a stipend distribution totaling 80% of the approved funding amount. MIP will fund the amount no earlier than one month before the internship start date.
- International students are responsible for reviewing the [MIP CPT Policy](#), following up with any issues and questions, and consulting the Bechtel International Center to understand any visa/immigration implications of your planned summer activities.
- If your internship involves travel, in addition to reviewing the Stanford Travel Policy, consult these Stanford student travel sites for guidance and tips.
  - [Stanford Travel Program](#)
  - [Student Office of Student Engagement - Stanford Student Organization Travel](#)
- Halfway through the internship, MIP will contact the supervisor to confirm that the internship is progressing as planned. MIP may also check in at the end of the internship.

- If the internship does not meet the approved terms over the course of the summer, the student must inform MIP. Depending on the circumstances, MIP may request the student to return all or a portion of the stipend.
- The student must submit a blog post, [described here](#), no later than two weeks following the end of the internship, or the first Friday of the first week of Autumn quarter, whichever is earlier, by uploading the blog and a signed Ford Dorsey Summer Internship Fund Blog Post and Image Consent and Release Form to your designated Google folder. Once your blog is received and your summer internship work is confirmed with your internship supervisor, the remaining 20% of the MIP summer internship stipend will be released.
- Students are responsible for any tax liabilities connected to stipend payments. Please see [Link #1](#) and [Link #2](#) for more detailed information about tax considerations and how it applies to students receiving department financial support.
- We will process the stipends through [GFS](#). Please sign up for direct deposit in Axess to ensure smooth delivery of funds. Once the stipend is approved, it usually takes a few days for the funds to be deposited in your account.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have reviewed the 2026 Ford Dorsey Summer Internship Fund Policy and agree to abide by the requirements set out in this document. I understand that my failure to abide by these requirements may result in penalties up to and including a hold on enrollment and the reimbursement of stipend payments.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_