

Shepherd Poverty Scholars
Application for Summer 2023 Internship
Office of Engaged Learning
College of Arts & Sciences
Baylor University

The Internship

As a member institution of the Shepherd Higher Education Consortium on Poverty (SHECP), Baylor University offers undergraduate students the opportunity to intern throughout the United States with organizations that work in distressed communities. Housed within the College of Arts & Sciences, Baylor's Shepherd Poverty Scholars Program selects undergraduate students each year to participate in the national Shepherd Internship. Continuing undergraduates are eligible to apply.

Scholars learn first-hand about the multiple dimensions of poverty in the United States by working for eight weeks alongside individuals seeking to improve their communities. Typically, Scholars work in organizations that fit their academic program of study and professional goals in order to develop their experience and skills for future civic involvement and employment. This summer, the internship will begin in early June and continue until the beginning of August. Students participate in an opening and closing conference at the beginning and end of the summer. The opening conference equips students, practically and personally, for their internships. The closing conference serves as a forum for interns to reflect on their summer and share their experience with other students and consortium members.

Application Instructions

First, please do not apply through the SHECP website unless you have been selected by Baylor and instructed to do so.

Second, please notify Dr. Daniel Benyousky (daniel_benyousky@baylor.edu) that you plan to apply by **December 1st**. Dr. Benyousky will then send you a link where you will submit your materials.

All application materials are due to that link by **December 8th at 11:59 PM**. This is also the deadline for your recommendation letter (see details below).

Prospective SHECP Scholars should have taken a course on poverty before the internship begins. Three relevant courses are available in Spring 2023, and students registered for one of these courses will be given priority in the application process:

- PPS 4310-01 (Philanthropy & the Public Good)
- PHI 4361 (Philanthropy & Social Change)
- SOC 4v70 (Philanthropy & Social Change)
- PPS 1100-02 (Poverty in Waco)

Application Components

- (1) CV or resume
- (2) Transcript (an unofficial copy is fine)
- (3) One letter of recommendation from a professor, Baylor staff member, previous or current employer, or community leader who can speak to your readiness for an internship through the Shepherd Higher Education Consortium on Poverty. Recommendation letters should be addressed to "SHECP Selection Committee Members." While the selection committee would like for letters to address your academic merit, level of maturity, flexibility, and readiness for a challenging, independent, professional learning experience, letters

should not address specific internship placements. Please have your recommender submit the letter directly to daniel_benyousky@baylor.edu.

(4) Short essays (each essay should be one page maximum, single-spaced with 12-point font and standard margins)

1. What do you know about poverty? Where have you acquired that knowledge? How has that led you to apply for this internship?
2. What experience have you had working with nonprofits or community partners? Describe what you learned about working in these environments—including challenges that you faced and how that has prepared you for the SHECP Internship.
3. What outcome(s) do you anticipate as a result of participating in the SHECP Internship? How do you foresee this program impacting your future education and career?
4. This internship challenges students professionally and personally. Students work in agencies serving people who may be experiencing extreme stress. Please describe a time when you experienced adversity, how it impacted you, and what you learned about care for yourself and others in challenging environments.

(5) A short video, 2 minutes or less, summarizing why you're applying and what qualifies you. Please also include in the video any additional information about yourself that you believe is relevant but not presented elsewhere in your materials.