Financial Aid Update
February, 2020

SPIF

- Are you interested in funding for summer public interest work, but don’t know if you qualify for summer funding? The Financial Aid Office is still accepting applications for SPIF. To apply for funding, please complete Part 1 of the application.
  - Eligible employment –
    - Governmental Agencies (Federal, State, and Local)
    - Not-For-Profit Organizations - 501(c)(3)
  - Non-eligible employment –
    - Positions for which other comparable or similarly situated interns are being monetarily compensated (Example, if government agency XYZ pays summer interns who are rising 3Ls, but not those who are rising 2Ls, then rising 2Ls are eligible but rising 3Ls are not).
    - Judicial clerkships/Summer internships or externships– or any work with a judge where you are doing traditional “clerking” activities – whether supervised by the judge or by the law clerks or other members of the judge’s staff. International students should speak to a member of the Financial Aid Office regarding financial aid for summer judicial clerkships.
    - Political campaign positions.

- After a review of SPIF, Part 1, the Financial Aid Office will notify the student of SPIF eligibility. If eligible, Part 2 of the SPIF application will be sent to the student. Part 2 is due March 15.

- When the employer letter is received, a copy must be submitted directly to the Financial Aid Office to complete the SPIF process.

- SPIF awards will be available during the first week of May. Incomplete applications will hold up the disbursement of funds.

- If you have any doubts on eligibility of funding or if the position is eligible, please contact the Financial Aid Office before accepting the position!

Other Summer Public Interest Opportunities:

- **Squire Patton Boggs Foundation** (SPBF) is pleased to make available a Squire Patton Boggs Public Policy Fellowship grant of $5000 to the Law School for the summer of 2020. The Fellowship program enables students who have finished their first or second years to work during the summer in a public policy position, for either a non-profit organization or government institution. They are looking for distinguished students with a passion for public interest work and/or public service. If you are interested in applying for the SPBF fellowship, please submit: the application, a copy of your resume, a statement of why you are seeking the Fellowship, and a description of the prospective summer position directly to the Financial Aid Office. **Deadline is March 1, 2020.**

  If SPIF eligible, SPIF will make up the difference working for 7.5 weeks or greater. For example, if working ten weeks, SPIF will award an additional $1,660; if working twelve weeks, SPIF will award an additional $3,000.

- **Equal Justice Works Summer Student Fellowship** Equal Justice Works has two unique law student internship opportunities designed for students who are interested in gaining valuable public interest law experience while serving marginalized communities and causes. Both opportunities provide a $5,000 stipend for 8-10 weeks of work during the summer of 2020, and applications are open now. See below for descriptions of these incredible legal internship opportunities.

  o **Rural Summer Legal Corps:** [This program](https://www.equaljusticeworks.org/) places 35 law students at LSC-funded civil legal aid organizations to address pressing issues facing rural communities. Projects include working on disaster-related issues, addressing affordable housing issues, providing legal aid to victims of domestic violence,
responding to the opioid crisis, and more. Students can view the different projects and organizations hosting Student Fellows here, and are asked to submit applications by February 10, 2020.

- **Immigration Summer Legal Corps:** This program selects 20 law students to help build capacity at legal services organizations while responding to the critical needs of underserved and low-income immigrant communities. Students can view the different projects and organizations hosting Student Fellows here, and learn how to make their applications stand out for this program by tuning into the upcoming ISLC Application Overview and Tips webinar on January 27, 2020 at 3:00 PM EST. Applications must be submitted by February 18, 2020.

Students can visit the website to apply for these opportunities today.

If SPIF eligible, the Financial Aid Office will award an additional $328 if working eight weeks, and an additional $1,660 if working for ten weeks for Equal Justice Works.

**1Ls & 2Ls - 2020-2021 Financial Aid Reapplication Process**

- **It's time to reapply for Financial Aid for the 2020-2021 academic year.** For detailed instructions on the financial aid process, please click here. The reapplication process requires submission of the FAFSA and our institutional application, FAAST. Both applications are now available. You will receive your financial aid award letter in early May. When you receive your financial aid award letter, fill out the required Notification and Confirmation form to accept/decline any portion of the aid awarded. The deadline to apply for financial aid for current students is April 15, 2020.

- **New for 2020-2021** – students will be required to submit a copy of their summer employer confirmation letter (includes firm employers) to the Financial Aid Office. The employer confirmation letter should be sent directly to the Financial Aid Office.

**February Financial Wellness Workshops**

- **Tuesday, February 18, 2020, 12:10-1:10pm, Room TBA**
  **Investor Behaviors: Barriers to Investment Success** - Why does the average investor’s portfolio performance return less than the overall market? How can investors overcome these shortfalls? Join John Caserta, Chartered Financial Consultant and Yale College Alum, as he discusses six common behaviors that keep investors from achieving their goals. Learn how different investor behaviors – such as availability bias, herding, loss aversion, and more – negatively impact portfolio performance and how to identify and manage those behaviors. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP here.

- **Tuesday, February 25, 2020, 12:10-1:10pm, Room TBA**
  **Socially Responsible Investing: Investing to Reflect Your Values:** Wondering what impact your portfolio has on society? Are your investments sustainable and responsible? Want to make more socially conscious investment decisions? How does being socially responsible impact performance? Join John Caserta, Chartered Financial Consultant and Yale College Alum, for an in-depth discussion on sustainable and responsible investing (SRI). Learn about the different types of SRI – including ethical, green, program, green investing and more – and how to construct portfolios based on your principles. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP here.

**3Ls – One hour Loan Counseling appointments are now available**

- 3Ls now is the time to get prepared for loan repayment. Please schedule a loan counseling appointment with Bill Mangini, via the "Office Hours" online calendar. Bill will be on campus Tuesdays and Wednesdays starting February 11 through May 22, 2020. Bill’s office location is Room 429A in Baker Hall.

Timeslots fill up quickly. Do not delay, sign up today!
IMPORTANT - Please remember to bring your FSA ID and password to the session with Bill as you will need it to access the federal student loan website.

IMPORTANT – If you are unable to keep a scheduled appointment, please contact our office or use the online calendar to cancel and reschedule a new appointment. Bill is here for a limited time on Tuesday and Wednesday and we want to make sure his days are filled with appointments.

Outside Scholarship Opportunities

- The Sallie Mae $20,000 Bridging the Dream Scholarship Program for Graduate Students. Applications will be accepted between January 3, 2020 at 12:00pm and February 14th, 2020, 11:59pm. Click here for more details.
- MAX by AccessLex will be awarding 6 scholarships ($5,000 each) in March and 9 scholarship ($40,000 each) and 6 additional scholarships ($25,000 each) in May. You must register for MAX, attend in-person workshops, or participate in the online curriculum to be eligible. If you have not signed up for MAX yet, we strongly encourage you to do so.
- Other scholarship opportunities can be found here.
- As a reminder, outside scholarships replace need-based loans dollar-for-dollar.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to us at financialaid.law@yale.edu or stop by our office, located in Room M13 if you have any questions or concerns.