



 UNCF[®]
K-12 EDUCATION
FELLOWSHIP

Changing the Face
of Public Education

DO YOU WANT TO MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT IN K-12 EDUCATION?

LEARN HOW BY BECOMING A UNCF K-12 EDUCATION FELLOW

UNCF K-12 Education Fellowship is a leadership and talent development initiative aimed at building a robust pipeline of high-achieving African Americans engaged in K-12 education in America. The program selects undergraduate juniors from historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) to participate in a 10-week summer experience that includes leadership development, a paid internship with an innovative K-12 education organization or school, and participation in an education reform case competition.

Eligibility to become a UNCF K-12 Fellow:

- Open to all majors with interest in education reform
- Have at least a 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale
- African American and a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident
- Must be enrolled at an HBCU and classified as a junior
- Demonstrated leadership experience and community service while a college student
- Submit a complete application and one letter of recommendation from an administrator or faculty member at your current institution



HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

MAIN COMPONENTS OF THE UNCF K-12 EDUCATION FELLOWSHIP

PAID SUMMER INTERNSHIP: The **paid** summer internship exposes Fellows to professional careers at leading K-12 education organizations and schools focused in areas such as advocacy, policy, research, school operations, and teaching. Fellows are expected to **work 30-40 hours per week** and assume full staff responsibilities during their internship. Through the internship, Fellows acquire new skills, gain an understanding of the professional needs of education organizations, and make meaningful contributions to their host organization.

UNCF STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SLC): Students accepted into the fellowship attend and participate in **3 – 4 days** of leadership and professional development training prior to starting their internships. SLC provides students an opportunity to learn skill sets that are needed to be successful interns and early career professionals. Conference attendees will enhance their critical thinking skills; learn strategies to support effective verbal and written communication; build their knowledge of collective impact and collaborative work styles, improve their networking skills, and practice problem solving via real-world scenarios.

EDUCATION REFORM CASE COMPETITION: The case competition is designed to strengthen Fellows' critical thinking, problem-solving, and teamwork skills. Fellows are placed in groups of 4 – 5 members that **collaborate virtually** to complete their team assignment **during evening and weekend hours**, so it does not interfere with their internship responsibilities. The case competition focuses on developing solutions to address a specific K-12 education issue in an assigned city, state or local school community. Teams will incorporate their knowledge of the current educational landscape through research and analysis and their individual assessment of the resources and policies needed to improve education.

ALUMNI AND CLOSING CONFERENCE: This conference, held at the conclusion of the paid internship, is required and provides an opportunity for Fellows and alumni to network with industry leaders and change agents in the education field. Fellows will reflect on their summer experience, create a success plan that leverages the skills they have acquired, learn about post-graduate fellowships and graduate school, and meet with job recruiters. Fellows also present and defend their case competition projects before a panel of industry leaders.

SENIOR YEAR EXPERIENCE (SYE): To further Fellows' professional development, a year-long program has been developed to provide additional supports and resources. During their senior year of college, Fellows who successfully complete the internship will have access to an online community with mentoring, career coaching, graduate school and fellowship application assistance, and job search assistance. Participants who complete SYE are eligible for a small stipend.

ALUMNI COMMUNITY AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES: This Fellowship program aims to support alumni even after they have completed their undergraduate degree with the goal of (1) assisting alumni in securing entry-level career positions in educational organizations and (2) cultivating alumni exposure to networking opportunities with education leaders.

UNCF will secure and cover summer housing and travel. *Summer travel includes travel to Student Leadership Conference, Host City, Alumni and Closing Conference, and Home City. Fellows are responsible for daily transportation to and from their internship and daily meals while in Host City.*

66%

of fellowship alumni
**PURSUE GRADUATE
OR PROFESSIONAL
DEGREES**

45%

of fellowship alumni
**ARE CURRENTLY
EMPLOYED IN THE K-12
SECTOR**

20%

of fellowship alumni
**HOLD LEADERSHIP
ROLES IN THE K-12
SECTOR**



ABOUT UNCF

**UNCF IS THE NATION'S LARGEST AND MOST EFFECTIVE
MINORITY EDUCATION ORGANIZATION.**

**UNCF PROVIDES STUDENTS WITH THE SUPPORT THEY NEED
TO GET INTO AND GRADUATE FROM COLLEGE PREPARED
FOR COMPETITIVE EMPLOYMENT, FURTHER EDUCATIONAL
ADVANCEMENT AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN CIVIL SOCIETY.**

UNCF aims to support its 37 member HBCUs in acquiring the resources necessary to provide students with a high-quality education and advocates for national awareness and funding of minority education efforts.

UNCF is governed by a 40-member board of which 15 members are presidents of member colleges and 25 are directors-at-large. Directors-at-large are executives at major U.S. corporations and organizations. During its history, UNCF has raised more than \$4.8 billion to promote higher education achievement in the African American community.

UNCF has distributed more funds to help minorities attend school than any entity outside of the U.S. government.

More than 445,000 individuals have graduated from college thanks to the financial support of UNCF.

Apply Today!

[UNCF.org/scholarships](https://www.uncf.org/scholarships)

For additional information, please email: K12Fellow@uncf.org

