

For Immediate Release

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SECU Foundation

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SECU Foundation Strengthens Support for Students, Communities with \$1.95 Million Commitment to Public Fellows Internship Program

– More than \$12.5 million awarded since 2015, benefiting over 2,100 students –

RALEIGH, N.C. – Building on a decade of impact, SECU Foundation has renewed its [Public Fellows Internship Program](#) for 2026 and increased funding for participating students, continuing its long-standing support of North Carolina students and communities.

Each undergraduate selected as a Public Fellow through their university will receive a stipend up to \$6,000 for their internship, an increase in impact from the \$5,000 that has been provided since the program launched in 2015.

The Public Fellows Internship Program offers students from all 16 universities in the UNC System the opportunity to gain paid, hands-on experience at local agencies and non-profit organizations, with an emphasis on service in rural and underserved communities across the state. Students interested in the Public Fellows Internship Program apply through their respective universities, with application timelines and selection processes managed at the campus level.

“We are extremely pleased with the tremendous success and impact of the SECU Public Fellows Internship Program,” said SECU Foundation Board Chair Mona Moon. “By providing students with meaningful, paid internship opportunities and supporting organizations addressing local needs, the program benefits both the next generation of leaders and the communities they serve.”

In addition to its 10-year milestone, the 2025 program year marked significant growth, expanding the program’s collective reach to 94 of North Carolina’s 100 counties. To date, SECU Foundation has committed more than \$12.5 million to the program, supporting 2,132 interns.

“The SECU Public Fellows Internship Program successfully delivered a transformative experience for our students,” said Fayetteville State University’s Assistant Department Chair and Assistant Professor for the Broadwell College of Business and Economics Dr. Rodney McCrowe. “Interns engaged in substantive, on-the-job work which enhanced their skills and led to powerful career development outcomes, including job offers and expanded professional horizons.”



Fayetteville State University had 19 participants in the Public Fellows Internship Program in 2025. Pictured are several of the university's 2025 Public Fellows with Dr. Rodney McCrowe.

For more information about SECU Foundation and the many ways it supports North Carolina communities, visit ncsecufoundation.org.

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About SECU and SECU Foundation

As a not-for-profit financial cooperative owned by its members, and federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA), SECU has been providing employees of the state of North Carolina and their families with consumer financial services for 88 years. SECU is the second largest credit union in the United States with \$57 billion in assets. It serves more than 2.9 million members through 275 branch offices, 1,100 ATMs, Member Services Support via phone, www.ncsecu.org, and the SECU Mobile App. The SECU Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization funded by the contributions of SECU members, promotes local community development in North Carolina primarily through high-impact projects in the areas of housing, education, healthcare, and human services. Since 2004, SECU Foundation has made a collective financial commitment of over \$340 million for initiatives to benefit North Carolinians statewide.