



The Foundation Fellowship Program

Atlanta Society of Financial and Investment Professionals (ASFIP) Foundation

Background:

The ASFIP Foundation Inc. was formed by the Atlanta Society of Financial and Investment Professionals (ASFIP) in 2015 with dual mandates:

- 1) To provide grants and investment industry volunteers to local nonprofit organizations that strive to teach students and adults about financial literacy, creating jobs, and generating wealth and effectively managing it. Through this work, we help our neighbors achieve financial stability and success.
- 2) To mentor and educate local and regional university students through the Foundation Fellowship Program. This program provides the university students who serve as fellows with an opportunity to gain hands-on experience managing an investment fund and learning about philanthropy.

The Foundation Fellowship Program:

The Foundation Fellowship Program will offer selected undergraduate and graduate student fellows a real world experience in the investment management of a foundation. The goal is that the student fellows develop a clear understanding of the knowledge, duties, and skills required to succeed in the investment management industry.

In this two semester program, the student fellows in the program will collectively act in the role of investment advisor to the foundation. The students will work together to advise the foundation's Board of Trustees on the fund's asset allocation, manager selection, and performance and risk monitoring. Additionally, the university students will consult with the board on foundation policy and grant making.

The inaugural cohort will begin in September, 2016 and run through April, 2017. The program is designed to be comparable in workload with a single three-hour academic course, with a time commitment over the eight month period of approximately 110 hours, including the various in-person and site visits.

Structure:

The program will be conducted through a series of in person meetings featuring industry and academic speakers, on-line team meetings supported by practitioner mentors, and a structured, self-study program of key readings and research from both practitioners and academics.

The ultimate outcome of the program is for the student fellows to present their final recommendations to the foundation's board as to the foundation's asset allocation, manager selection, and performance and risk evaluations. Additionally, students will actively participate over the course of the program in the grant-making aspects of the foundation, including helping to evaluate potential nonprofit grant recipients.

In person meetings are slated for:

- September: One Saturday session featuring practitioner and academic speakers and team activities.
- October: Participate with a local charity to address area needs according to our mission.
- November: One Friday afternoon site visit to an Atlanta area investment management fund.
- January: One Saturday session featuring practitioner and academic speakers and team activities.
- February: One Friday afternoon site visit to an Atlanta area endowment or non-profit organization.
- April: One Saturday final to present final recommendations to the foundation's board.

Student Benefits:

- Enhance your career opportunities in the investment industry by engaging in a unique real-world, applied learning experience.
- Interact with leading investment industry professionals.
- Form a close network with your cohort of students from a variety of local area universities who share similar career objectives.
- Access the program's exclusive Linked-In group to connect to students in your cohort, students in the following cohorts, and the various industry professionals involved with the program.

Student Benefits (continued):

- Gain exposure to potential employers by having the option of having your bio listed on the society's web page.
- Earn a certificate upon completion of the program.
- Develop leadership and time-management skills.

Eligibility:

This unique experiential learning experience opportunity is open to:

- Seniors or graduate students who are majoring or concentrating in finance.
- Students who will be enrolled in school in both the Fall, 2016 and Spring, 2017 semesters.
- Students who have completed the introductory finance class at their university prior to entering the Foundation Fellowship Program in September, 2016.
- Students attending local and regional universities who are able to attend all of the Atlanta-area in-person meetings.

Applications:

The program's vision is to bring together a set of 15 to 20 student fellows from a variety of local and regional universities to form a cohort of fellows that will begin in September, 2016 and end in April of 2017. Application **deadline is May 23, 2016** with a rolling admission after that. Interviews in person, or through video chat, will follow.

With a focus on asset allocation and managing an endowment, the Foundation Fellowship Program is not designed to compete with traditional university portfolio management teams or the CFA Investment Challenge. Instead, the Foundation Fellowship Program provides an expansion of the experiential learning opportunities already available to many university students. The students will learn how improving the investment results and process can have a positive impact on the accomplishment of the Foundation's mission.

To apply, go to: http://asfip.org/form.php?form_id=14