

# Sources of Financial Assistance

## Student Employment

St. Olaf College employs nearly 2,000 eligible students each year through the student employment program. These experiences, in a variety of settings on campus, provide students with the opportunity to gain professional skills and build relationships while earning money toward their higher education expenses. Most students find the program to be flexible and accommodating with academic and extra-curricular schedules. Search for available positions at this link: <https://www.stolaf.edu/apps/stuwork/>

**Student Employment Office Contact:** Audrey Turner ([turner6@stolaf.edu](mailto:turner6@stolaf.edu)) Request a meeting with Audrey Turner to discuss all possible options.

### Working on campus without a need based work award:

- **Alumni, Parent Relations:** Alumni, Parent Relations--hires students without a work award for events such as Reunion Weekend. **Contact:** Kelly Vikla ([vikla1@stolaf.edu](mailto:vikla1@stolaf.edu))
- **Center for Advising & Academic Support** the Center for Advising & Academic Support hires students without student employment awards in specialty jobs, e .g. organic chemistry Supplemental Instruction (SI) leader. **Contact:** Nayeli Trujillo ([lazaro2@stolaf.edu](mailto:lazaro2@stolaf.edu))
- **Piper Center for Vocation and Career:** The Piper Center occasionally hires peer advisors who do not have a work award. Contact Thando Kunene ([kuene@stolaf.edu](mailto:kuene@stolaf.edu)).
- **Employment outside of the student work award:** -Bon Appetit--jobs available for students without a work award. **Contact:** Robin Preuss ([preuss1@stolaf.edu](mailto:preuss1@stolaf.edu))

### Working off campus

**Community Based Work Study** there are other job opportunities available off campus. Students with a federally funded work award have the option to work with local non-profit organizations and the Northfield Public Schools through community-based student employment. This program provides students with an opportunity to make meaningful contributions to local organizations while connecting with the greater Northfield community.

**Off-campus employment** some students choose to work off campus in local establishments like Target, Cub Foods, and Walgreens etc. **However, this option is not open to International students.** We do not recommend students working off campus during the fall semester of their first year at St. Olaf.

Opportunities for short term/occasional employment helping with yard care, house sitting, babysitting, moving, or longer term employment such as nannyng, dog walking, and respite care are often posted on the [stolaf-extra](#) mailing list. Local employment openings are also often advertised on stolaf-extra. Subscribe to the stolaf-extra list to learn about opportunities: <https://wp.stolaf.edu/it/email-mailing-lists/>

## Working at St. Olaf over the summer

Summer student employment begins the day after finals and ends the day before the first day of classes in the fall. Students must use the Time Entry System (TES) to log hours worked. Students are paid every two weeks. St. Olaf students who are hired for either regular student employment or summer student research will need to complete an online Summer Employment Authorization. Your supervisor initiates this form. **Contact:** sse-hrstaff@stolaf.edu or call 507-786-3480

## Financial Aid

### Special circumstances or Change in Family Circumstances

Special circumstances are situations beyond a student's or families control that impacts the information reported on the FAFSA. Instances such as a change in household income, exceptional medical expenses and unforeseen educational expenses are appropriate examples for which your financial aid could be re-evaluated. Please allow two weeks for evaluation once the Financial Aid Office has received all documentation.

**Contact:** Any financial aid counselor ([finaid@stolaf.edu](mailto:finaid@stolaf.edu))

## Piper Center

**Piper Center Internship Grant — unpaid or underpaid internships** The Piper Center for Vocation and Career makes available to all students a one-time grant of up to \$2,000 to fund an unpaid or underpaid internship during Interim or the summer. The Piper Center's coaches or Peer Advisors, as well as faculty or staff advisors or coaches can help you find internships and apply for funding. To apply for this grant, student must be eligible according to these guidelines: <https://wp.stolaf.edu/pipercenter/funding-resources/piper-center-grant-award/>

**Johnson Family Opportunity Fund** the [Johnson Family Opportunity Fund](#) is intended to decrease the barriers caused by a lack of financial support and to provide greater access to resources, experiences, and opportunities to help students navigate the path from college to career. Johnson Funding is awarded to students with a high level of financial need, with a preference for first-generation college students, who are pursuing academic and career enhancing opportunities. The Johnson Family Opportunity Fund was established in 2014 through the generous support of the Krisbin Foundation. **Contact:** Kristi Kehrwald Adair (kehrwa1@stolaf.edu)

**Cohort Internship Programs** the Piper Center administers a range of exciting cohort internship programs for the college. The [Rockswold Health Scholars](#), [Mayo Health Scholars](#), [Consultative Health & Medicine](#) internship, and The Physician in Clinical and Hospital Healthcare (see Academic Catalog, Pre-Health Studies) are all pre-health internships. The [Mayo Innovation Scholars](#) and [Norway Innovation Scholars](#) are internships in innovation and entrepreneurship. The [PACON Grant Award](#) supports internships in public affairs; [Finance Scholars](#) provides an opportunity for students to explore a range of career paths within the finance industry; [Svoboda Legal Scholars](#) offers internships in law school clinics; and [Social Entrepreneurship Scholars](#)

and [Davis Projects for Peace](#) offer internships in Social Impact. These programs, all of which are funded, are competitive opportunities that offer students unparalleled experiences in their areas of interest. See [Cohort Internship Programs](#) for additional information.

**Connections Program** The Connections Program brings students into alumni workplaces to explore careers and broaden their perspective on what they can do with a liberal arts education. The program aims to connect students with St. Olaf's vast network of alumni nationwide, specifically in metropolitan areas, including Chicago, New York, Washington, D.C., Boston, Denver, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland and Madison, WI. Students have the opportunity to meet with alumni from specific interest and industry areas. Students contribute \$300 – \$350 towards the program. Costs vary by city. Scholarships are available based on high financial need. **Contact:** Kris Estenson ([estensok@stolaf.edu](mailto:estensok@stolaf.edu))

**The Ole Cup** The [Ole Cup](#) is an annual student entrepreneurial competition, held in late April each year, that is open to all St. Olaf students. The grand prize winner receives \$10,000. The second prize winner receives \$5,000, and the third prize winner, \$3,000. There is an additional award of \$5,000 for the best social venture. Students work with the Associate Director of Entrepreneurship to develop a business plan, refine the venture, and practice their pitch. The winner of the Ole Cup automatically qualifies for the semi-final round of the [Minnesota Cup](#) Student Division, where the winner (of the Student Division) is awarded \$30,000, and can compete for the Minnesota Cup Grand Prize of \$50,000. **Contact:** Margaret Bransford ([bransf1@stolaf.edu](mailto:bransf1@stolaf.edu))

**Entrepreneurial Grants** This program awards grants to full-time St. Olaf students or teams that are in the early stages of developing an idea or venture. Grants of between \$500-\$1500 are awarded for the purpose of testing the idea through market research or development of a prototype. The goal is for tested and verified ideas to move toward a business plan and the Ole Cup. Students work with the Associate Director for Entrepreneurship to pitch their idea to a committee for consideration. Applications are taken on a rolling basis, October 1-March 1. **Contact:** Margaret Bransford ([bransf1@stolaf.edu](mailto:bransf1@stolaf.edu))

## Research

**Center for Undergraduate Research and Inquiry (CURI)—summer research, conference attendance** The St. Olaf Collaborative Undergraduate Research and Inquiry (CURI) program provides opportunities for St. Olaf students from all academic disciplines to gain an in-depth understanding of a particular subject through working closely with a St. Olaf faculty member in a research framework. We aim to promote and facilitate undergraduate research in all its forms by supporting students and faculty with various research opportunities during both the summer and the academic year, and by providing funding (up to \$5,000) for students to present the results of their research at conferences or in other appropriate venues. **Contact:** Tory Borovsky or Katherine Tegtmeyer Pak, [CURI@stolaf.edu](mailto:CURI@stolaf.edu)

**Steen Fellowship** Supports student-initiated projects that demonstrate independent scholarship, investigation and creativity. Administered and funded similarly to CURI but students work independently. **Contact:** Tory Borovsky or Katherine Tegtmeyer Pak, [CURI@stolaf.edu](mailto:CURI@stolaf.edu)

## International & Off-campus Studies (IOS)

There are a number of [funding and scholarship](#) options for all approved off-campus studies programs. **Students are highly encouraged to seek funding support when going off-campus!** The IOS Office also provides scholarship application support to students applying for external funding, such as the Gilman Scholarship or funding from other external partners (CIEE, DIS, FEA etc.)

Additionally, St. Olaf has many endowed scholarship funds that are made possible by generous St. Olaf alumni and friends of the College to help reduce the cost of an off-campus study experience. Some of these funds are for specific programs, while others are for any off-campus program. These scholarships can be found by contacting the International & Off-Campus Studies office or by going to the [IOS website](#). **Contact:** Jodi Malmgren ([malmgren@stolaf.edu](mailto:malmgren@stolaf.edu)) or Brittan Duffing ([duffin1@stolaf.edu](mailto:duffin1@stolaf.edu))

**Semester and Year Long Programs:** Every student who applies for an approved off-campus studies program will be considered for an additional scholarship from the College (including interim, semester, and yearlong programs). The Financial Aid Office will review each student's financial need and the cost of the program. Generally, we are able to award some funding to every student receiving need-based aid from St. Olaf. The Financial Aid Office strives to get the cost as close as possible to a "normal" semester on campus. The average scholarship for a semester-long program is \$2000.

**Interim Programs:** Every student who applies for an approved off-campus studies program will be considered for an additional scholarship from the College. The Financial Aid Office will review each student's financial need and the cost of the program. Generally, we are able to cover 20-33% of the cost of the Interim program.

**Schelske Opportunity Fund** the Schelske opportunity grant fund is administered by the Schelske Opportunity Grant Fund Committee. It works to assist multicultural students at St. Olaf College to study off-campus at international and domestic locations. St. Olaf students who identify as multicultural may apply by submitting an application with a short essay and financial information. The fund awards between \$100-\$800 based on financial need and available funds. **Contact:** Heather Campbell ([campbelh@stolaf.edu](mailto:campbelh@stolaf.edu))

## Emergency Fund for Students

**Emergency Fund for Students:** St. Olaf College has access to funds to support students who are experiencing a financial hardship due to an unanticipated event or emergency. The Emergency Fund cannot be used for any charge billed by St. Olaf (tuition, study abroad etc). Students must have exhausted all other possible financial resources, including student loans, before applying to receive funds. The amount given is determined by the need and subject to the availability of the funds. The application for the Emergency Fund can be found here: <https://wp.stolaf.edu/deanofstudents/emergency-funding-policy/>

