



Western New York Prosperity Fellowship Program Application Guidelines

The WNY Prosperity Fellowship is intended for students who are committed to the Western New York community. Open to all undergraduates and select graduate programs including students in the School of Management, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and School of Architecture and Planning. The WNY Prosperity Fellowship assists students who are actively preparing for careers that further economic development and growth in the Western New York (WNY) region. Eligible students will utilize this 12-month Fellowship to gain career-related experiences, to offset costs associated with internship placements, and to help pay for academic year expenses. Fellowship recipients will be required to participate in a credit-bearing internship program during the summer of the initial award year. Internship experiences will be limited to a Western New York industry, business, or organization related to job growth and sustainability of the WNY economy. All candidates must demonstrate financial need.

FELLOWSHIP ELIGIBILITY :

- Open to all undergraduates and select graduate programs including students in the School of Management, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and School of Architecture & Planning.
- Application includes a personal statement and short form essay questions describing educational goals, professional aspirations, relevant pre-professional and professional experiences to date, and civic and leadership potential. Applicants must also define how the work they intend to do after graduation will contribute to the growth and sustainability of Western New York's 21st century knowledge economy. Applicants must specifically explain how their intended careers will directly relate to job growth in WNY.
- Candidates are required to file a 2017-18 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) using estimated tax returns from 2016; if awarded Fellows will be required to update the FAFSA application to reflect actual filed tax returns for 2015, prior to funds disbursement.

FELLOWSHIP REQUIREMENTS:

- Must participate in a credit-bearing summer internship and complete 300 hours of internship work.



- If chosen, students must provide the Prentice Family Foundation and the University at Buffalo with their contact information for 10-years following the award of their degree.
- If awarded, students must agree to work in Western New York for at least two years within a decade of attaining a degree.
- The Western New York Prosperity Fellowship is a program dedicated to support Fellows in contributing to the economic viability of the Western New York Region. The program delivers on this promise by providing Fellows with resources and access to WNY business leaders and the community. The following are program participation requirements designed to support the Fellowship objectives;
 - Western New York Prosperity Fellows Welcome and Orientation in May 2017
 - Internship Discussions with Fellows: Informal discussions with Fellows to share and reflect upon internship experiences. Fellows required to participate in one evening discussion session and attendance at the End of Summer Internship Reception
 - Innovate N' Caffeinate: Networking with Western New York Business Leaders. Fellows required to attend two events per semester, or four-per year.
 - Western NY Panel Discussions and Soft-Skills Development Trainings: Trainings developed based on Fellows' interests outlined in Scholar Entrance Survey. Fellows are required to participate in two events per semester, or four-per year.
 - Each Fellow will participate in the Fellowship Retreat. This all-expense paid retreat will serve as the program's formal kick-off for the 2017-18 academic year.
 - Complete a Winter Session Seminar designed to enhance Fellows' professional development skills and improve their capacity to engage effectively with the Western New York community.
 - Prentice Family Foundation meetings - All Fellows are required to attend these sessions, hosted twice a year to meet the Prentice Family Foundation Board.



APPLICATION DEADLINES:

- Applications are currently being accepted for the Western New York Prosperity Fellowship for the 2017-2018 academic year.
 - Applications are due February 5, 2017 for all Undergraduate candidates, continuing graduate students and first-year graduate School of Engineering candidates, and candidates pursuing a Master of Architecture.
 - Applications are due on April 1, 2017 for incoming Master of Real Estate Development, Master of Urban Planning, and candidates pursuing a MBA/Dual Degree students April 1, 2017.

Who may apply	Application Deadline
All undergraduate candidates Continuing Graduate students Continuing MBA students First-year School of Engineering candidates Master of Architecture candidates	Feb 5, 2017
Incoming MBA students Incoming MBA Dual Degree students Incoming Master of Real Estate Development students Incoming Master of Urban Planning students	April 1, 2017

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS:

- Must be at least junior-level at the commencement of the fellowship period.
- Must be a registered full-time undergraduate student.
- Should have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above.



GRADUATE STUDENTS:

- Must be a registered full-time graduate student.
- May apply any time while pursuing their graduate/professional program of study.
- Should be in excellent academic standing (such as, 3.5 GPA).

FELLOWSHIP BENEFITS

- Prosperity Fellows will be affiliated with like-minded individuals that show promise to be leaders in their industry and community.
- Up to \$25,000 in scholarship and internship support for an academic year will be awarded to each Fellow based on demonstrated financial need. This support is intended to offset tuition and related academic costs (room and board, book allowance, etc.) for a full academic year and requires a summer internship. Unmet need is defined as each student's total cost less the expected family contribution and all additional scholarships, grants and federal loans. The FAFSA will define the expected family contribution.
- Summer internships will cover the cost of summer internship tuition and fees.
 - In addition, for internships without employer compensation or with compensation less than the average hourly internship pay rate, the Fellowship will confer an award that lifts the student's hourly pay up to the defined hourly rate:
 - For undergraduate internships, the defined hourly rate is an average hourly pay rate of \$12 per hour x 30 hours per week x 10 weeks (\$3,600); and
 - For graduate internships, the defined hourly rate is an average hourly pay rate of \$15 per hour x 30 hours per week x 10 weeks (\$4,500).
- Fellows will receive consistent WNY development-focused internship support, including paid summer internships (including tuition and fees) in the eight county Western New York region. Fellows will also participate in facilitated informal discussions (three anticipated throughout the summer) to share and reflect upon internship experiences. A final reception will be held to celebrate completion of the internships.
- A networked, cohort-specific enrichment experience (Winter Session Seminar) will enhance Fellows' professional development skills and improve their capacity to engage effectively with the Western New York community.
- Fellows will benefit from specially designed soft-skills development programming to support Fellows' successful transition from Academia to the Professional arena.
- Fellows will receive complimentary membership and access to attend meetings/trainings sponsored by Buffalo Niagara Partnership 360 program,



Emerging Business Leaders, and the WNY Venture Association bi-monthly meetings.

- The Western New York Prosperity Program Enrichment Fund is intended to provide financial support to Prosperity Fellows seeking to participate in experiential learning opportunities related to their academic interests and that meet the WNY Prosperity Fellowship program outcomes for Fellows. This grant is available only to University at Buffalo students who are in good standing in the WNY Prosperity Fellowship Program. The award amount ranges from \$1,000 to \$1,500.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Required application components for all applicants include:

1. Completed Online Application Form (including your UB email address, if known)
2. On-line completed 2017-2018 Free Application for Federal Student Aid form (FAFSA), using estimated tax returns from 2016; if awarded Fellows will be required to update the FAFSA application to reflect actual filed tax returns for 2015, prior to funds disbursement.
3. One letter of recommendation may be submitted separately by your recommender via email or mail. It is your responsibility to ensure this letter is received by the application deadline.

University at Buffalo
WNY Prosperity Fellowship Committee
Celine Keefe, Application Coordinator
Blackstone Launchpad
220 Student Union
Buffalo, NY 14260
(716) 645-8111 | celineke@buffalo.edu

4. Resume
5. Unofficial Transcript
6. Fellowship Candidates may be invited to interview in person.

**All materials (with the exception of the FAFSA form and Letter of Recommendation) should be submitted as one package via our online application portal. Paper applications will not be accepted.*



Our application can be accessed at this link:

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/WNYProsperityFellowship1/UniversityAtBuffaloWesternNewYorkProsperityFellowshipApplication>

2017-18
WNY Prosperity Fellowship Application

Legal full name

Last Name First Name Middle Initial

Permanent residence

Number, Street, Apartment Number

City State/Country

Zip/Postal Code

Best telephone # to reach you: () _____

UB E-mail address _____@buffalo.edu (if known)

*Notification regarding Fellowship awards will be made to your email address.
Written acceptance of any offer made will be required from you.*

Check one: U.S. citizen Permanent Resident



If awarded the Fellowship, my student level during the 2017-2018 academic year will be:

___ Undergraduate student:
___ Junior
___ Senior

___ Graduate student:
___ 1st Year
___ 2nd Year
___ PhD candidate

For Incoming Undergraduate Applicants to Complete:

Undergraduate approved major(s): _____

Total Credits (completed): _____ Total Credits (in progress) _____

Current cumulative GPA (out of 4.0): _____

Expected graduation date: Fall 20____ Spring 20____

Degree you will receive: _____

For Incoming Graduate Applicants to Complete:

Graduate program: _____

Date you entered/ expect to enter this program: Fall 20____ Spring 20____

Total Credits (completed) in this program: _____

Total Credits (in progress) in this program: _____

Current Cumulative GPA (out of 4.0): _____

Expected graduation date: Fall 20____ Spring 20____



Degree you will receive: _____

For Undergraduate and Graduate Applicants to Complete:

Have you filed a 2017-18 FAFSA?

Yes No

Fellowship recipients will be required to participate in a credit-bearing internship program during the summer of the initial award year. For this Fellowship, internship experience must be consistent with internship guidelines in the student's department. If selected as a WNY Prosperity Fellow, I will complete the internship requirement appropriate to my studies during:

_____ Summer 2017

_____ Summer 2018

_____ Completed
(Renewal applicants only)

If selected as a WNY Prosperity Fellow, I will maintain and send updated contact information to the University at Buffalo, as well as the Prentice Family Foundation, for a total of 10 years.

Yes No

If selected as a WNY Prosperity Fellow, I agree to work in Western New York for two years within ten years of receiving degree.

Yes No

If selected as a WNY Prosperity Fellow, I agree to participate in programming events through the summer, fall, and spring semesters of the fellowship. This includes, but is not limited to, May Orientation Session and Winter Session 2018.

Yes No

If selected as a WNY Prosperity Fellow, I agree to participate in any activities designed to thank and recognize the Prentice Family Foundation for their support.

Yes No

If selected as a WNY Prosperity Fellow, I understand that I should maintain a GPA above 3.0 (Undergrad) or 3.5 (Graduate).

Yes No



Personal Statement: Limit 3000 characters including spaces, for this question.

The WNY Prosperity Fellowship Committee asks that you submit a personal statement describing how your interests and achievements - both academic and extra-curricular - demonstrate a commitment to contribute to the economic growth, innovation and prosperity for the WNY Community. Please also explain why you believe there is a good fit with this program and your long term aspirations, including how the Fellowship will help you attain these goals.

Short Form Questions for New Applicants: Limit 1000 characters including spaces, for each question.

1. Please identify the type of knowledge economy, business, industry, or organization in which you would like to intern and how you envision this internship will help you to achieve your professional, community development, civic engagement and entrepreneurial goals.
2. Please address your intended future professional plans and how those plans will actively contribute to the economic growth and prosperity of Western New York. Please be specific about how your plans will relate to job growth in Western New York.
3. How did you learn about the WNY Prosperity Fellowship?

Short Form Questions for Renewal Students: Limit 1000 characters including spaces, for each question.

1. Name a Western New York Prosperity Program that you attended and how your professional and/or educational goals benefited from the experience.
2. How did what you learned throughout your Fellowship year contribute to your understanding of the issues affecting WNY economic development and how it has reshaped your perspective on how you might contribute to its revitalization. Please be specific about how your plans will relate to job growth in Western New York.
3. **If you completed your internship requirement in the previous year, please respond:** Share with the selection committee an example of something new you learned, a new perspective gained on a topic, or a new problem discovered as a result of your internship.
4. **If you did not complete your internship requirement in the previous year, please respond to the following question:** Please identify what type of knowledge economy business, industry, or organization in which you would like



to intern and how you envision this internship will help you to achieve your professional and civic engagement goals. Please address your intended future professional plans and how those plans will actively contribute to the economic growth and prosperity of WNY.

Resume: Please submit a resume.

Transcript: Please submit a copy of your unofficial transcript.

Application Submission: Please submit concurrently all components of your WNY Prosperity Fellowship Application no later than specified due date via our online portal. Your letter of recommendation may be submitted separately by your recommender via email or mail. It is your responsibility to ensure this letter is received by the application deadline.

University at Buffalo
WNY Prosperity Fellowship Committee
Celine Keefe, Application Coordinator
Blackstone Launchpad
220 Student Union
Buffalo, NY 14260
(716) 645-8111 | celineke@buffalo.edu