



State University of New York  
College of Environmental Science and Forestry

# The Fink Career Fellowship

*Your Future Starts Now*





## The Fink Career Fellowship at SUNY-ESF

The Fink Career Fellowship is intended to promote the career and professional development of students at the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry. This Fellowship is made possible by ESF Alumni Jesse and Betsy Fink, Class of 1979, who are committed to solving environmental challenges, and supporting students who strive to do the same.

The Fink Fellowship supports internships, interdisciplinary projects, conference attendance, and career travel for **undergraduate and graduate students**.

Fink Fellows are exceptional students who seek to pursue experiences that can truly shape their development. With the help of The Fink Career Fellowship, the chance to pursue career dreams can become a reality.

Fellowship applicants must demonstrate:

- Dedication to the environment and their field of study;
- Passion and enthusiasm for their proposed internship;
- Demonstrated promise in pursuing their career goals; and
- Ability to plan and follow through with a professional experience.

Applicants must provide evidence of their exceptional engagement in their field of study, as well as their intention to pursue a career in it. Students can expect to share their projects with members of the College community.

### Eligibility

The Fink Career Fellowship provides financial support to undergraduate and graduate students who have completed at least one full semester at SUNY-ESF. Students must also be returning to campus for at least one semester following the internship.

### Amount of Support

In **2017**, The Fink Career Fellowship will examine budgets on an individual basis to decide if and how much financial support will be awarded to a student or group of students.

### Project Requirements

The Fink Career Fellowship will provide support to undergraduate and graduate students in good standing with the College. Projects must meet the following conditions:

- The project goals/objects include involving the preservation and commitment to solving environmental challenges.

*"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."*

*-Eleanor Roosevelt*

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## Project Application Requirements

### Application Cover Page

Personal information and information specific to the project, including projects goals and objectives, anticipated start and end date, additional sources of funding, and overall career goals.

### Proposal: Describe the work of the intended project and how it will contribute to your educational and career goals (500 words or less)

Describe the work of the intended project and how it will contribute to your educational and career goals. What are the goals or intended outcomes of the project? How will this work benefit your career goals, the ESF community, and the environment?

### Budget Justification

The budget justification should detail exactly what is being purchased, the cost and the purpose of the items.

### Letter of Support from Faculty Advisor/Mentor

The faculty advisor's statement must explicitly discuss the following: (1) background information about the project/preparation done already for the project, (2) the relationship between the project and the student's academic program of study, (3) the name of the work to be accomplished, (4) goals/outcome hopes for the project, and (5) how the project will be supervised/mentored and evaluated.

**Please submit your complete application to the Career Services Office in Old Greenhouse 9 or via e-mail to [careers@esf.edu](mailto:careers@esf.edu) (PDF)**

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## Examples of Projects

**Home Aquaponics System:** Student designed and created a system that utilizes highly efficient LED's for lighting while recycling waste heat to warm the water in the system. Arduino and Raspberry Pi technology was used to implement water parameter tests that can notify the user of problems with the system using online messaging. Student aimed to develop a system that is user-friendly enough to be sold in stores like IKEA so the average person can grow their own fruits and vegetables at home.

**Biomimicry Global Design Challenge:** Students (5) collaborated as an interdisciplinary team to identify a problem in the food system and use the biomimicry design process (concepts from nature) to create a solution. The design had environmental, economic, and social impacts that will lead to a more sustainable food system. The group specifically designed a personal compost container that exceeds the capabilities of those already on the market by widening the scope of its usage and functionality.

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State University of New York  
College of Environmental Science and Forestry

Office of Student Affairs  
Career Services Office

## Project Application Cover Page

Please submit this completed form, along with your project proposal, budget justification, and a letter of support (faculty advisor/mentor), to the Career Services Office in Old Greenhouse 9 or via e-mail to [careers@esf.edu](mailto:careers@esf.edu).

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ M.I. \_\_\_\_\_

SYR.edu Email \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Local Address \_\_\_\_\_

Degree Seeking (Associates, Bachelors, Masters, PhD) \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated Graduation Date \_\_\_\_\_ Credits Complete \_\_\_\_\_

Major(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Minor \_\_\_\_\_

Career Goal(s):

Project Faculty Sponsor/Mentor (Name and E-mail):

Project Start Date \_\_\_\_\_ Project End Date \_\_\_\_\_

Project Objectives:

Funding from Additional Sources: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Requested for Fink Career Fellowship: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Faculty Sponsor/Mentor Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Signature

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State University of New York  
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Office of Student Affairs  
Career Services Office

## Project Proposal

Describe the work of the intended project and how it will contribute to your educational and career goals. What are the goals or intended outcomes of the project? How will this work benefit your career goals, the ESF community, and the environment?

**Statements longer than 500 words will not be accepted.**

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## Project Budget Justification

Describe how the total request was calculated and how the money will be spent. This budget should encompass any and all supplies you will be needed as well as any additional monetary needs you believe will be necessary to make this project a reality.

Description	Amount (\$)	Purpose
<i>Example: Compostable bags</i>	<i>\$50 for set of 100</i>	<i>Needed for composting materials properly</i>