



Robert '61 and Peggy Sharp Fellowship in Business, Free Enterprise, and Entrepreneurship Application



Scholarship Overview

The Sharp Family Fellowship in Business, Free Enterprise, and Entrepreneurship

Florida Southern College is grateful to Bob and Peggy Sharp for establishing the Robert R. and Peggy I. Sharp Fellowship in Business in 2005. The Sharp Fellowship provides qualified business majors, especially those interested in entrepreneurship and innovation, the opportunity to experience real-life work situations through an internship/mentorship program with a host company. Ideally, the company will be in the start-up or scale-up phase of development or an established company that has a specific innovation project. This will be a hands-on experience, in which the student will have an opportunity to develop entrepreneurial mindset skills. An entrepreneurial mindset is a set of skills that enable people to assess situational variables, identify and leverage opportunities, assess risk, and develop implementation plans. Research shows that an entrepreneurial mindset is highly valued by employers as the cornerstone of innovation, and it is crucial for creating new businesses and growing companies.

The Fellowship requires a post internship report and presentation that provides an overview of the intern's experience, observations, and outcomes associated with these entrepreneurial mindset skills:

1. Situation Analysis
2. Opportunity and Risk Assessment
3. Idea and Solution proposal
4. Implementation and Launch plan

Upon satisfactory completion of the post-internship report, students will receive the **Robert R. and Peggy I. Sharp Fellowship Certificate in Entrepreneurship**. The Certificate is validation that the Sharp Fellow has learned and applied the skills associated with a situation analysis, opportunity and risk assessment, idea and solution proposal, and implementation and launch plan, as described in the post internship report.

The fellowship includes a total scholarship of up to **\$16,000 (based on current 2021 valuation)** per academic year. If more than one scholarship is awarded then the total amount of the scholarship is divided equally among the recipients. The scholarship amount will be distributed upon successful completion of the internship, requirements and the academic requirements associated with BUS 4960/4961 as published in the college catalog.

The Sharp fellowship(s) will be awarded each year following the application and selection process in the fall semester. If more than one fellowship is awarded, one fellowship will be for the spring semester and one fellowship in the fall semester. The fellowship starts concurrently with the first week of the term. Students receiving the fellowship is expected to maintain a schedule of not less than 10 hours per week on the job at the approved internship location.

The student candidates for the fellowship will be identified during the fall semester, a committee comprised of three faculty members from the Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise, and one staff member from the Office of Financial Aid will select finalists.

The finalists will be presented for personal interviews to Dr. & Mrs. Robert R. Sharp and daughter Robin Sharp to make a preference. All requirements of eligibility will be as determined by the **Sharp family**, but in no case will they be less than the minimum requirements associated with BUS 4960/4961 as published in the College catalogue. The chosen recipient(s) will identify a specific company or start-up organization with whom they wish to facilitate the internship and fellowship 4 weeks prior to the start of the applicable semester, for committee review and approval.

Scholarship Application

The application letter should address the following information:

1. Name, Student ID#, GPA, Major
2. What is your interest in the Sharp Fellowship, what impact do you expect it to have on you?
3. Describe your interest in entrepreneurship and/or innovation.
4. What start-up or company would you like to work with as part of the Fellowship, or if the specific company has not been identified, please describe the type of organization that you would like to work with.
5. What are your qualifications that best position you as the ideal candidate for the Fellowship?
6. What is your five-year vision and how will the Sharp Fellowship help you fulfill that vision?

THE LETTER SHOULD NOT EXCEED 2 PAGES. It should be single-spaced in Times Roman, 10 or 12 pt. font. Include a 1 page resume outlining activities, recognitions, community service and work experience. Both documents are to be submitted electronically together to Mr. Justin Heacock, Entrepreneur-in-Residence, at jheacock@flsouthern.edu. NO LATER THAN 4:00 PM, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15th, 2021.

NO LATE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Finalists for the Fellowship will be notified no later than October 22, 2021 and will be personally interviewed by the Sharp's in the weeks following notification. If candidates have identified an internship opportunity, they should be prepared to discuss the company and project specifics. If candidates have not yet identified a specific company, they should be prepared to discuss their ideal type of company and project.

Recipients of the Fellowship will be notified no later than November 19, 2021.

The Sharp Fellowship will be personally supervised by a member of the faculty in Business and Economics and should require, at a minimum, monthly meetings between the student and the faculty member.

All academic requirements and grade assignments for BUS 4960/4961 will be as contained in the appropriate course syllabus.

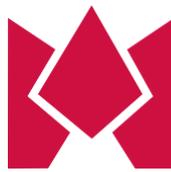


**FOR ANY QUESTIONS OR TO
REQUEST FURTHER INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT:**

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