

# HBCU RESEARCH INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

at **iF**, A Foundation for Radical Possibility

## Program Background

The HBCU Research Network was an organization founded in 1999 to conduct research and outreach that address the health needs of African Americans. The organization closed its doors in 2020 and provided a grant to iF, A Foundation for Radical Possibility to continue its legacy of supporting HBCU students. iF has matched the contribution to create funding for an intern to work on a research project at iF each summer between 2021 and 2025. The intern will join the RISE (Reparations, Institutions and Structures, and Economic Justice) team at the foundation dedicated to disrupting institutions and structures that perpetuate anti-Black racism and other intersectional discriminatory harms

## The Project

RISE is seeking an intern to conduct a landscape scan and literature review in support of the development of **Let's GO DMV!**'s advocacy strategy for government policies and programs that advance economic justice. **Let's GO DMV!** is a guaranteed income pilot program that provides direct cash to hospitality workers in the DC region who were and are still impacted by the desperate economic effects of COVID-19.

Under the guidance of the Policy Manager, the intern is expected to review and summarize local DC region and national trends of the movement for guaranteed income to inform how **Let's GO DMV!** can be most impactful in its advocacy efforts while centering and building worker power.

## Responsibilities

- The student can rely on various communication channels and mediums to conduct the landscape scan and literature review, including reports, updates, and experts from the guaranteed income field partners like the Economic Security Project and the Guaranteed Income Community of Practice. In addition, the intern is encouraged to conduct interviews, review books/texts, documentaries, and media that supports the project.

- The intern's research will focus on the following objectives:
  - » Track national trends, events and news related to existing guaranteed income pilot programs.
  - » Outline prominent community and/or worker-led organizing strategies that have garnered local government or institutional support for guaranteed income.
  - » Inform an understanding of gaps and opportunities in local government funded programs in the Washington metropolitan area.
- Provide support and engage in *Let's GO DMV!* Table Partner and Worker Engagement related events.

## Qualifications

- Undergraduate (seniors only) or graduate level enrolled at one of the following local schools: the University of the District of Columbia (UDC), Howard University or Bowie State University.
- Interest in economics, public policy and data analysis, structural racism and sexism through a justice lens.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills.
- Collaborative, with the ability to be a self-starter and attentive to deadlines.
- Desire to approach projects with curiosity, creativity, and *IF's values*.

## Timeline

The student will work 8-10 weeks between June 11 and August 30th and will meet with the Policy Manager once per week during the project period. Please note that the foundation is closed the first two weeks of July, but the student will be expected to work on this project during that time. However, the student will not be expected to work on July 4th (Independence Day Observance)

## Compensation

The student will be paid \$25/hour and will work 20 hours per week. All compensation is subject to payroll taxes as required by state and federal laws. The student will also receive a \$300 wellness allowance to facilitate healing justice while researching parts of American history that can be emotionally taxing. This allowance can be used for activities such as yoga, bodywork, massage, fitness classes, etc

## **Deliverables**

The student will be expected to (1) submit a written report or multi-media piece that responds to the research objectives; (2) a brief 1-page proposal of how *Let's GO DMV!* can use the information found in their research to inform an advocacy strategy for guaranteed income and economic justice programs supported by the government; and (3) the intern will have the opportunity to present their findings to staff and *Let's GO DMV!* Table partners.

## **How to Apply**

Applications are due by **Monday, May 20, 2024**, but those interested are encouraged to apply as soon as possible, as applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

**Please email the following materials to [roe@iffdn.org](mailto:roe@iffdn.org):**

- Resume and cover letter describing credentials and interest in the project.
- 1 letter of support from an advisor at school or mentor.
- 1 -page writing sample on any topic. You may submit a previously written document.