

SEI Impact Internship Program - Call for 2018 Student Applications

The Social Economy Initiative (SEI) is an important vehicle through which McGill University's Desautels Faculty of Management integrates social entrepreneurship and social innovation into its teaching, research and outreach activities. The SEI is an undertaking of the Marcel Desautels Institute for Integrated Management (MDIIM). The Institute's mandate is to foster an integrated approach to management.

The goals of the SEI are threefold:

- **Teaching:** to prepare a dynamic workforce to lead and serve organizations within the social economy by providing a world-class education.
- **Research:** to conduct leading-edge research into the social economy for the purpose of actionable knowledge.
- **Outreach:** to provide catalyzing experiential learning opportunities outside the classroom for our students by engaging with individuals and organizations active in the social economy.

What is an Impact Internship?

A high-quality internship is a carefully monitored work or service experience in which a student has intentional learning goals and reflects actively on what she or he is learning throughout the experience. Internships promote academic, career and/or personal development and are a proven way for students to gain relevant knowledge, skills and experience while establishing important connections within their field of interest. They also greatly increase the chances that a student will gain full-time employment after graduation. An "Impact Internship" does all of the aforementioned, with one notable exception: **the work contributes to social impact and positive social change.**

About the SEI Impact Internship Program

The SEI Impact Internship Program (SEI IIP) is a high-quality, carefully monitored internship program in which a group of exceptional students are selected through a competitive process to apply what they have learned in the classroom to professional settings and projects within the social economy. **Students are expected to take on meaningful and challenging tasks throughout their internship.** Their mandate should utilize skills and knowledge developed during their studies and is not intended to be clerical in nature.

The **objectives** of the Impact Internship Program are to:

- Help students gain relevant knowledge, skills and experience while establishing important connections within their field of interest;
- Enhance the capacity of our partner organizations to deliver on their respective missions, thereby increasing their social impact;
- Provide paid internships to students, thereby diminishing the risk of forfeiting an opportunity to work in the social economy as a result of financial pressure(s); and
- Forge new relationships and deepen existing ties between Desautels/McGill and the community

Now in its sixth year, the SEI IIP has supported 58 internships with 34 organizations primarily based in Montreal. There has been enthusiastic demand from both students and social economy organizations to maintain and grow this program.

- The program has allowed students to set and achieve professional development goals, take on ambitious tasks and deliverables, and learn first-hand about the realities of working in the social economy.
- Interns have reported that the experience has allowed them to be more proactive, assertive, and confident in their skillsets throughout the course of their mandates.

- Previous partner organizations have included: [Apathy is Boring](#), [Artistri Sud](#), [Ashoka Canada](#), [Auberge de Jeunesse du Saint-Laurent](#), [Centre for Social Innovation \(CSI\)](#), [Chantier de l'Économie Sociale](#), [Communautaire](#), [CoPower](#), [Decode Global](#), [Donald Berman UP House](#), [Équitas](#), [Esplanade](#), [Fondation Montreal](#), [Fondation AXCS](#), [Formétal](#), [Grameen Creative Lab](#), [Kiffin](#), [La Gaillarde](#), [Les Ateliers Sept à Nous](#), [LOVE – Leave Out Violence](#), [The J. W. McConnell Family Foundation](#), [The Jeanne Sauvé Foundation](#), [Made in Montreal](#), [MotherFood International](#), [Pro-Vert Sud-Ouest](#), [Salon 1861](#), [Share the Warmth](#), [Suspicious Fish Creative Arts & Literacy Program](#), [The SWAP Team](#), [Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre](#), and [World Wide Hearing](#).

2018 SEI Impact Internship - Program Overview

- 8-10 full-time impact internships total across all partners, depending on interest and funding.
- 10-hours of on-boarding “pre-work” prior to the internship start-date. The pre-work expectations can be communicated directly to the intern and hours may be used for background reading, site visits to meet with staff, etc.
- 10-week internship commitment (35h/week), to be completed any time between April 30 and August 10, 2018 (dates to be agreed upon by the Impact Intern and partner organization).
- Student award value of \$5,000 (paid in equal installments every two (2) weeks)

Eligibility

- McGill BCom students **or** McGill undergraduate students who can demonstrate understanding of management concepts through academic courses and/or work experience. Due to the program's commitment to donors, priority is placed on Management students.
- Minimum 2.7 CGPA
- Have completed course-work related to social innovation, social entrepreneurship, or community engagement **or** can demonstrate significant experience and commitment to the social economy through their cover letter and CV

Application Requirements

Part I: Online

- ✓ Fill out the [online application form](#)

Part II: Submit supporting documents on [myFuture](#) (Job Post # 107463)

- ✓ A one-page cover letter
- ✓ An academic transcript
- ✓ Your most recent CV

In your cover letter, please explain why you're interested in becoming an Impact Intern and why you think the internship would align with your future career plans. Please also mention any relevant skills, interests and/or prior experience.

Unofficial academic transcripts will be accepted.

Selection Process

1. During the student application period, candidates will complete and send in their applications by **Friday, January 19, 2017**. *Please note that this is a competitive internship program with a limited number of placements. Thus, not all applicants will be offered an Impact Internship.*
2. The SEI IIP selection committee will meet to review all application packages and determine which candidates will advance to the partner ranking stage. All successful applicants will be notified by e-mail within approximately three (3) weeks' time.
3. Candidates who advance to the second round will be asked to rank their potential organizational mandates.
4. The SEI will conduct a preliminary matching process for each student-organization pairing. Candidates who advance to this stage will not necessarily receive an internship offer.
5. The partner organization will be invited to interview its matched student and approve/decline his or her candidacy.
6. If, after the interview, the partner organization wishes to decline the student's candidacy, another student will be matched and the process repeated until a match is approved or until no eligible students remain.
7. We anticipate that all candidates will receive an answer (internship confirmation or declination) and that most Impact Interns will have their placements and work dates confirmed by early April.

Timeline

- **November 30, 2017:** Applications open
- **January 19, 2018, 4:59pm:** Deadline to submit online application and supporting documents package
- **Early February 2018:** Selection Committee meets and applicants brought to first-round interviews are notified
- **Late February 2018:** First-round interviews with representatives from Soutar Career Centre and SEI and ranking of organization mandates
- **March 2018:** Interview(s) with matched organization
- **April 2018:** Placements finalized and pre-placement workshop
- **May – August 2018:** Interns fulfill 10-week placements, participate in 2-3 cohort meet-ups, and a donor celebration event

For any questions related to the SEI Impact Internship Program, please contact the MDIIM Project Manager at megan.poss@mcgill.ca.