

# MARYLAND COMMUNITY FELLOWS PROGRAM



The **Maryland Community Fellows Program** is a unique internship opportunity to provide free tax preparation and financial capability services to low-income Marylanders. Gain valuable experience while giving back to your community!

## Did you know...?



Only 2 in 5 Marylanders can afford a \$1,000 emergency expense.

Tax time provides an opportunity to change that.

## Fellows Program At A Glance

- Fellows play a key role at free tax prep sites
- Work with clients **one-on-one**, preparing Tax returns and **educating taxpayers**.
- **Financially empower** low-income Marylanders and **acquire tax skills**.
- Receive up to \$7,200 (\$18/hour) stipend!

## About the Fellows Program

The **Maryland Community Fellows Program** recruits talented students from local schools and molds them into **financial empowerment advocates**.



Fellows receive comprehensive tax law training during the fall semester. Ultimately, fellows obtain an **Advanced Certification through the IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program**.

In the spring, Fellows are imbedded in free tax prep programs at **local Community Action Agencies** and provide high quality free tax preparation to **low-income Marylanders**.



# What do Fellows have to say about the program?



*"The fellowship program has significantly enhanced my professional development by allowing me to apply my analytical skills in tax preparation and improve my social skills with clients. It has been rewarding to build community connections and establish trust with clients, making the work feel personal and fulfilling. Helping VITA clients feels like assisting neighbors or family, especially those who speak Spanish, and I am grateful for the opportunity to support my community".*

**Felix Mendez-Solano - 2023/2024 MCF Alumnus & Senior at University of Maryland, Baltimore County**



*"Being in the MCF Program was life-changing, helping me achieve advanced tax certification, develop project management skills, and understand tax-related legal terminology. Through the VITA program at LifeStyles of Maryland, I discovered my passion for library sciences and gained technical expertise, while improving my ability to communicate complex issues with diverse individuals. The experience profoundly impacted my personal and professional growth, and I'm deeply grateful to the CASH team".*

**Liv Smith - 2023 MCF Alumna & University of Maryland, Baltimore County Alumna**

*"My favorite part of the Fellows program was interacting with the clients. It felt incredibly rewarding to help people find answers to their questions. Each interaction provided valuable insights and reinforced my passion for financial advocacy. This experience has also been a fantastic opportunity for me to learn more about taxes, personal finance, and myself, helping me grow both professionally and personally."*

**James Vainqueur - 2022-2024 MCF Alumnus & Senior at Frostburg University**



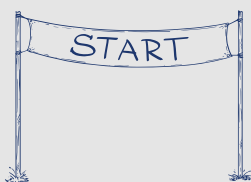
*"Interning at the CASH Campaign of Maryland has been a highly rewarding experience, allowing me to assist individuals and families with tax preparation. The organization's excellent support and training ensured we were well-prepared to provide accurate assistance. Working with a dedicated team of volunteers and staff, all committed to enhancing the community's financial stability, has been truly inspiring."*

**Faith Ajiboye - 2023/2024 MCF Alumna & Morgan State University Alumna**



## Are you ready to apply?

## Learn about your next steps!



### Eligibility

- **Undergraduate** junior or senior, or graduate student (or substitute relevant work experience for education)
- **Enrolled** in a degree-conferring academic program for upcoming school year
- **Minimum** 3.0 GPA

Scan the QR Code to Apply!



Questions?

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