# Tips for Effectively Navigating & Applying to Swarthmore Funded Summer Opportunities

## 1. Consider which type of summer experience is best for you.

**Independently sourced for-profit and non-profit**
(Lang, CIL, CS Summer Stipends, Rubin, Mellon Mays)

**Research on and off campus**

**Specific program/affiliation/matching**
(Lang Chester Fellows, CS SFEP)

Ensure that you are eligible to apply (some experiences are restricted to certain class years, times of the year, or have a maximum number of hours).*

*International students and undocumented students should check in with an advisor from the International Student Center to understand parameters around work authorization.*

## 2. Familiarize yourself with application deadlines.

Most funded opportunities have deadlines in mid-late February but **each program is different**.

For the summer of 2024, the earliest deadline is January 24th and the latest deadline is March 26th. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

## 3. Understand what is required for your application.

All applications for funded opportunities at Swarthmore require both **a common application** (in WizeHive) and **a risk compliance form**. See which materials are required for which program here.

**The common application includes questions about:**
- Contact information
- How you heard about the funding opportunity
- Whether or not you have previously received summer funding from the College
- Which other funding resources/programs you're pursuing for this opportunity

### Some opportunities may also ask for:

**Personal statement/essay**

**Short answer questions**

**Background Check**
if experience involves engaging with minors)

**Letters of Recommendation**

**Confirmation of offer letter/email**

**Resume**
(you may want to use this editable resume sample and/or view Swarthmore resume samples)

**Unofficial Transcript**
(see instructions for accessing your digital copy via PDF)

**Budget Outline**
(including itemized breakdown of anticipated costs associated with your summer experience)

# 4. Allow sufficient time to put together high quality application materials.

**Strong applications will:**

1. Be **thoughtful**, including relevant details and sufficient information to answer all related application questions
2. Be **error-free** (be sure to proofread!)
3. Be **tailored to the opportunity** - articulate how this opportunity aligns with your particular interests, long-term career plans, and experiences
4. **Demonstrate impact** - Wherever possible, show how this funding opportunity will make a difference in your life/trajectory

# 5. Leverage affiliated campus resources. There are multiple resources on campus to help you make sure that you have a strong application for funded opportunities.

| **Career Services** | **Writing Center** | **Lang Center** |
|---|---|---|
| can provide feedback on resumes, personal statements and essays. | can review written materials for content and potential mistakes. | happy to meet with potential candidates for the various funding opportunities. |