Ronald Henderson Research Foundation Internships

The Henderson Foundation offers internships to students in the fourth year honours program in economics. These pay $5,000. Their purpose is to fund the participation of bright young scholars in projects that combine economic and social analysis, or use economics to analyse social problems. In this way the internships encourage a broader view of the world and offer grassroots experience of the way policy can affect people’s lives.

Honours students awarded internships undertake economic research in a community organisation that has a social and an economic perspective. The internships give community organisations the opportunity to undertake small research projects in partnership with a university student and his/her honours supervisor.

Students will spend a 1 week full time orientation period in the community organisation at the beginning of their internship and a further 40 days working there before their project is completed.

Students will have a community organisation supervisor and a University supervisor who will also be their honours thesis supervisor. There will be three “supervision sessions” or meetings of the student with the two supervisors and a representative of the Henderson Foundation. At the beginning, the first will plan the research. The second, halfway through the internship, will assess the progress of the project and the third, at the end of the internship, will evaluate the project from a student and community organisation perspective. In addition to these meetings laid down by the Henderson foundation, the student will, of course, have other meetings with his/her supervisors as is usual.

Payment of $2,000 to the students will occur at the commencement of the project, but after the first supervision session. The second payment of $2,000 is dependent on satisfactory progress being made and will be made after the second supervision session and when the Foundation has received a satisfactory report from the foundation representative supporting the project. The final payment of $1,000 will be made on the Foundation’s receipt of an electronic and hard copy of the project report.

The Centre for Applied Economic Research is administering the internship scheme at the University of New South Wales.