



Richard E. Grayson Community Journalism Internship Fund At The New Bedford Light

About

In support of Boston University commitment to increase student access to learning opportunities both inside and outside the classroom, Richard E. Grayson (CGS 68' COM 70', Parent COM 04') is providing an annual internship stipend of \$5,000 to undergraduates at the College of Communication or College of General Studies who are pursuing internships with local community news organizations.

Available Funding

SUMMER 2025 One rising junior or senior from the **College of Communication or College of General Studies** is eligible to receive **\$7,000 total** (\$5,000 from the Richard E. Grayson Community Journalism Internship Fund and \$2,00 from New Bedford Light) to support an internship at **The New Bedford Light**.

How to Apply

- Submit the following documents to Nichelle Cross nicross@bu.edu by **Monday February 3rd, 2025**
 - ☐ Resume
 - ☐ Cover letter
 - ☐ 3 reporting samples
 - ☐ Cover Sheet

Application process:

*A committee of Journalism faculty will be reviewing applications. The top three candidates to the employer.

Cover Sheet:

Legal First Name: _____
Last Name: _____
Preferred Name: _____
BUID#: _____
BU Email address: _____
External (non-BU) email address: _____
Cell Phone Number: _____
BU College (College of Communication or College of General Studies): _____
Major(s): _____
Undergraduate or Graduate student* (graduate students are not eligible for this fund): _____
Graduation date: _____
LinkedIn URL: _____



The New Bedford Light

127 W. Rodney French Blvd.
New Bedford, MA 02744
(401) 525-1735



The New Bedford Light Newsroom Summer 2025 Internship

OVERVIEW

The New Bedford Light and the Boston University Department of Journalism aim to immerse a Boston University student in The Light's newsroom in summer 2025 to practice community journalism in a professional environment. The student journalist would ideally live in New Bedford (or the South Coast) and be embedded in The Light's newsroom to learn about and report on the history, demographics, economics, arts and culture, environment and politics of the city and the South Coast region. The student journalist would be assigned stories, encouraged to pitch their own ideas, and work with seasoned reporters and editors in The Light's newsroom.

GOALS

1. The student journalist would intern at The Light and help expand its community journalism mission by covering general assignments and multimedia news stories as well as participate in at least one long-term investigative or explanatory journalism project. The student journalist's work would help to better enable The Light to continue to focus on its investigative and explanatory journalism strengths while also creating daily content that is relevant to the average taxpayer.

PAYMENT

The student would earn a total of **\$7,000 for 12 weeks**, payable in three installments.: two totaling \$5,000 from Boston University and one totaling \$2,000 from The New Bedford Light.

SPECIFICATIONS

Throughout the experience, the student journalist will be expected to contribute regular news stories that advance The Light's mission of community engagement. We will work to develop several of these pieces into "medium-scale" features or enterprise stories of at least 1,000 words or a comparable multimedia project. Over the course of the semester, the student journalist will strive to participate in one "large-scale" investigation or explanatory journalism project — which unearths information previously unknown to the public and advances understanding of an important local issue.



MILESTONES

Publication of work

- 12 weeks / 35-40 hours a week
- 1 investigative or explanatory journalism story
- 1-3 medium-scale enterprise/feature stories
- 5-10 in-depth news stories with two to three-day turnarounds

Impact of work

By semester's end, students will have a strong portfolio of local reporting and will have made connections to sources and other reporters across the South Coast.

Students will also be responsible for tracking the impact of their stories through Parse.ly analytics and to determine whether any policy changes or government action resulted from their work.

Must-have qualifications:

- Must be able to report on multiple platforms, including text, photos, video and/or basic graphics
- Must have published several stories, videos, or photos in student news publications or community news publications
- Must understand the importance of using social media to share news content
- Must be familiar with WordPress and the Google suite
- Must be able to work full-time flexible hours. Shift is sometimes Monday through Friday but will include some weekends to cover events or breaking news
- Must have a strong command of English grammar and AP style
- Must be able to work with simple data sets
- Must have a strong sense of journalistic ethics and of First Amendment and public access issues

Ideal candidate *preferred* qualifications:

- Have a working knowledge of conversational Spanish or beyond
- Have an appreciation and some knowledge of diverse cultures including those from Central America, Mexico, South America and Portugal/the Azores

Expectations for The Light's newsroom employees:

- Reports, writes and edits with accuracy, fairness and clarity
- Meets deadlines
- Reliable, self-starting, curious, tenacious, fair, ethical, disciplined and intellectually courageous
- Exercises solid news judgment
- Open to new ways of delivering the news on all platforms and through use of social media
- Aware of and responds to the competitive news environment



- Advocates for First Amendment and public access issues
- Gives attention to detail, is thorough and diligent
- Anticipates assignments and generates enterprise
- Strives for balance and cultivates diverse perspectives
- Seeks out direction and accepts critiques, feedback and new ideas courteously
- Faithful reader of The Light website as well as competitors' websites/newspapers

Key criteria for success:

- Interacts effectively and respectfully with the public, editors, photographers and other colleagues
- Makes a difference in the newsroom and the community
- Represents and protects The New Bedford Light brand as well as the brands of all the journalists who work here