

Karbank Philosophy Fellowships

For Boston University Undergraduate Students

The Philosophy Department at Boston University is pleased to announce this year's competition for Karbank Fellowships for undergraduate BU students who will have taken at least two philosophy classes at BU by the end of the Spring semester, 2025. The purpose of these Fellowships is to assist students in pursuing their philosophical reflections in any of a number of ways and venues. For example, a student interested in environmental ethics might intern for a nonprofit doing environmental work, or for a legal firm involved in environmental litigation, or for an organization that seeks new ways of resolving pressing environmental issues whether global or local (these new ways could include policy proposals, or new technologies, or sustainability initiatives here at BU, or involve hands-on field work—to mention but a few possibilities). Although we are especially receptive to projects pertaining to environmental issues, the Fellowships are not limited to projects related to those issues. Any structured activity, study, or hands-on experience that would significantly enrich the student's philosophical understanding of self and world is a candidate for support. While holding an internship or working at a nonprofit organization are obvious ways to achieve this aim, the evaluation committee will also consider proposals that involve such things as taking a relevant course that cannot be taken at BU, or pursuing in one way or another a relevant branch of study. Examples of previous successful awards can be found at <https://www.bu.edu/philo/community/the-karbank-fellowship>.

Successful applicants will receive up to \$6,500: \$2,500 of this amount is a grant recognizing the awardee's achievement and up to \$4,000 is for budgeted expenses. Preference will be given to philosophy majors and minors, and to returning students over graduating ones, but any student who will have taken two philosophy courses by the end of Spring semester 2025 is eligible.

Applications should include:

- (1) a one page, single-spaced proposal that states clearly what the Fellowship would be used for and why it is worthy of support;
- (2) a budget (with appropriate justification of the amounts listed);
- (3) a letter of recommendation from a BU faculty member (sent directly by the recommender to the email below);
- (4) a transcript (unofficial copies are acceptable).

The first two items must be in a single Word or PDF document.

Successful candidates will receive requested expenses at the start of the project, with the remaining \$2,500 awarded at the end, contingent on the student submitting within two weeks of the completion of the project (and in any case no later than **Sept. 11, 2025**) a typed report of around 1,000 words, along with a letter from the organization (if applicable) confirming the student's performance of any required duties. The report should describe the student's activities and the value of their project, and should be submitted to philda@bu.edu for review by the Karbank Fellowship Evaluation Committee. Any funds not used for the purposes requested must be promptly returned to the Philosophy Department. Funds are potentially taxable, and may have deductions taken out upon disbursement.

The completed application is due no later than Friday, **March 21st, 2025** and should be sent to the Karbank Fellowship Evaluation Committee at philda@bu.edu. Please contact that address with any questions you may have.

The Karbank Fellowships are made possible by a generous gift from Steven Karbank,
a graduate of Boston University's Philosophy Department.