

Women and Gender Resource Center Division of Student Affairs

STUDENT FEES ADVISORY COMMITTEE FY26 ONE TIME REQUEST (H)

The WGRC is seeking a FY26 One Time Request in the amount of \$10,000 for hiring a Non-College Work Study student employee.

Currently, the WGRC is restricted to hiring student employees who are College Work Study eligible, significantly narrowing our potential employee pool. This limitation not only hampers our ability to build a diverse and dynamic team but also misses the opportunity to provide valuable developmental employment experiences to a wider range of students. By securing funding for Non-College Work Study positions, we can attract a broader applicant pool, allowing us to hire students who bring various perspectives, skills, and backgrounds to our office.

Providing employment to Non-College Work Study students can have a transformative impact on their college experience. These students gain practical work experience, develop essential skills, and enhance their resumes, which ultimately contributes to their career readiness and employability after graduation. By offering these opportunities, we actively support the strategic initiative of <u>increasing retention rates for First Time in College (FTIC) students</u> and <u>retention rates of Pell-eligible FTIC students</u>, as students who feel engaged in meaningful work are more likely to stay connected to their academic pursuits and remain enrolled.

Moreover, hiring Non-College Work Study students aligns with our commitment to <u>lowering costs</u> <u>for economically disadvantaged students</u>. Expanding our hiring criteria ensures that a broader range of students can benefit from employment, regardless of their financial aid status, thereby promoting equity and access within our community.

In addition, as a small professional staff team, the assistance of student employees is crucial for the efficient operation of our office and programs. Non-College Work Study students can take on various responsibilities, from administrative tasks to assisting in the planning and execution of events, thereby enhancing our capacity to serve the university community effectively. Their contributions not only lighten the workload for our staff but also enhance the overall quality of services we provide.

Project: Non-College Work Study Employee

Investment: \$10,600 (Asking amount plus 6% admin fee)

Itemized breakdown estimate: \$10,000 would provide enough funding for 1 non college work study student employee at a rate of \$12 an hour for 20 hours a week for 1 academic year.