Barlow Immersive Anthropology Award 2026-2027

Revised Oct 18, 2026

Anthropology undergraduate majors: Through the generosity of Pete and Sandra Barlow, the CWU Department of Anthropology and Museum Studies would like to help fund your exploration of anthropology in an immersive, outside of class experience for up to $2,500.

Opportunities may include, but are not limited to:

- Field school programs (domestic or international, including CWU programs)
- Internship programs
- Professional conference participation
- Study abroad programs (including CWU programs)
- Volunteer programs (domestic or international)
- See other links below
- Other: like individualized projects linked to credit-bearing work at CWU (with credit earned either prior to, during, or following the award)
- If you are not sure how an opportunity that you are interested in might qualify, please talk to a department faculty member.

Eligibility & award funding levels:

Eligible students: Any enrolled undergraduate anthropology major

Eligible expenses: Travel, living-away expenses, tuition, child care, and various program or program related costs.

Amount: Up to $2,500. (You may apply multiple times, but your total allowed funding for your CWU undergraduate career is $2,500)

Deadline:

Applications are taken all year, but it is recommended you apply by April 15. This is to ensure accurate financial aid package calculations for the following year. We recommend you apply early, as available funds may be depleted later in the academic year.

Application:

Create a typed Word or PDF document and email it to the department chair (Pat.Lubinski@cwu.edu) addressing these:

1) **Basic information:** Give your name, anthropology faculty advisor name, program title, dates, and a description of the immersive, anthropology-centered learning opportunity for which you are seeking funds. Include links to any formal descriptions of the program.
2) **Essay:** In no more than 350 words (12-point font), describe how this will immerse you in a world of learning and take you out of your current frame of reference (how in addition

to removing you from your usual surroundings, it takes you outside of your box), and how it will be an impactful, transformative experience for you.

3) **Budget:** Itemize what you think the experience will cost you. If you are applying for travel expenses, provide the departure and destination locations, the mode of transportation (e.g., airfare, bus, etc.), and best estimate for the cost.
4) **Funding disclosure:** Inform us about other approved or pending funding sources for the same experience (for example, scholarships or grants). If you have no other funding, please say so.

An example application is provided.

Evaluation:

Department faculty will attempt to review applications within 2 weeks of submission to the department chair. The following criteria will be used:

1) The student has not already met their $2,500 limit.
2) The essay articulates how the experience will immerse the student in a way that has the potential to be transformative (to cause some sort of change through the exposure to new perspectives).
3) The student's anthropology advisor approves funding.
4) Budget meets eligibility criteria and any pertinent CWU rules.

Award:

If you are awarded funding, as a condition for receiving the funds, you agree to type a thank you document describing the experience, how it will take you outside of your usual frame of reference, and its impact. Also include a photograph of yourself. This document can be modeled on your application. You agree to work with a faculty member to ensure it is complete, thoughtful and well crafted so it can be posted online and provided to the donor.

Once the award is made you will need to work with our department secretary to arrange for use of the funds. Contact Penelope.Anderson@cwu.edu.

More ideas for opportunities:

CWU Department of Anthropology & Museum Studies summer field schools:
https://www.cwu.edu/academics/anthropology/summer-field-programs.php

Other field school programs in the Pacific Northwest and beyond:
https://www.anthropologyfieldschool.org
https://www.anthrofieldschool.com/
https://www.archaeological.org/programs/professionals/fieldwork/afob/
https://primate.wisc.edu/primate-info-net/career-center/pin-career-areas/pin-careers-field-research/