UCeed Haskayne Student Fund
Recruitment guide
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The UCeed Haskayne Student Fund (UHSF) is a $1.1 million venture capital fund managed by UCalgary students. It is the first student-run venture fund in Western Canada and includes members from different faculties including business, engineering, and science.

UHSF is a highly experiential and impactful program that gives students hands-on experience in the world of entrepreneurship and venture capital. Students accepted to join UHSF will be enrolled in FNCE469/669 where they will develop their skills to evaluate early-stage companies seeking venture capital funds and collaborate with Fund Managers to select the most promising startups.

UHSF began as a partnership between UCalgary, Innovate Calgary, Creative Destruction Labs, and members of the VC community. Its mandate is to invest in high-growth companies across all industries, with the intention of becoming a true evergreen fund, recycling all proceeds for reinvestment. Along with investing start-up capital in promising new companies, UHSF also serves as a gateway to emerging new technologies by providing its investment partners unique access to new innovations and due diligence deliverables. The program is supported by a network of fund associates, UCalgary, faculty and staff, alumni, and venture partners who guide students through a formal investment advisory group.

Currently, the fund has over $1.1 million in assets under management and made three investments. By bringing together participants from different backgrounds, with diverse perspectives, the team leverages everyone’s individual strengths to advance early-stage startup companies that are bringing unique ideas and innovations to market.

“UHSF provides a lot of opportunity to students. It’s hard work, but the things you learn, the people you meet and the network you build make this program so valuable.”

Chioma Izugbokwe, MBA Student and UHSF member

Luke Lumbard, BComm student from the Haskayne School of Business, shared the impact UHSF has had on his educational and professional journey.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=4wfTNDxe7rY
Investment process

Deal Sourcing
The UHSF team sources deals through the Creative Destruction Lab, personal connections, industry events, pitch competitions, and through word of mouth in the start-up community.

Due Diligence
UHSF team leads the due diligence process of evaluating prospective investments. The deals typically close within months to reflect the fast-paced nature of the venture capital industry.

Investment Decision
Once all due diligence has been performed and the UHSF team has made a final investment recommendation, an investment memo and a presentation are created for the UHSF Investment Advisory Group to finalize the investment decision.

“UHSF is a great program that provides incredible venture capital experience. It was wonderful to work with the UCalgary students and be a part of their learning journey.”
Rachel Drew, Co-founder and CEO of UHSF investee company, Cadence

“The UCeed Haskayne Student Fund offers an incredible real-world learning opportunity to University of Calgary students. Through this unique fund, students manage real money and invest in real companies. That’s the kind of hands-on learning experience that makes an impact on students and employers.”
Andrea Drager, Partner, Azure Capital Partners Chair of UHSF Investment Advisory Group
Application

UHSF is a rigorous program, selecting high-achieving students who have demonstrated leadership, an entrepreneurial drive, personal impact, and academic excellence. Excellent interpersonal, presentation, oral and written communication skills are required. UHSF seeks students who are extremely dedicated and motivated, with high career aspirations, and capable of assuming significant levels of responsibility. Two years of remaining studies are required to allow for adequate onboarding and the eventual succession from Fund Associate to Fund Manager role.

Fund Associate Role:

As a Fund Associate, you will develop your abilities to evaluate early-stage companies, such as startups. You are passionate about enabling growth and will support the continued expansion of UHSF and its portfolio companies. The ideal candidate embraces a dynamic, multifaceted role where they will gain broad exposure to the venture capital process, including early/seed-stage seed stage companies and portfolio management.

Key Responsibilities:

Sourcing and Due Diligence:

- Support the Fund Managers in identifying and qualifying prospective opportunities and managing deal pipeline through our Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system.
- Facilitate coverage of key investment verticals, including industry mappings as well as identifying key stakeholders and events.
- Perform preliminary financial, strategic, and competitive analyses of prospective investments, including evaluating financial models.
- Assess product-market fit and communicate with co-investors, and subject-matter-experts on product/service being developed to understand potential.

Execution

- Assist in drafting summary proposals, and letters of intent to be shared with potential portfolio companies.
- Facilitate in-depth due diligence efforts as well as support general deal-closing workflows.
- Develop and write short and long-form investment theses as well as an investment memo for the Investment Advisory Group (IAG).
Enablement

- Oversee post-investment portfolio management, including analyzing performance and trends from portfolio company reporting.
- Maintain up-to-date knowledge of industry trends and provide other relevant news to the investment team on an ongoing basis.
- Support general fund operations as well as company data collection and tracking

Requirements:

- Strong desire to work as a core member of the UHSF team.
- Interest in working with venture capital, growth equity, and/or debt structures.
- Strong analytical skills, with the ability to synthesize large amounts of data into summarized insights.
- High level of proficiency in MS Office preferred.
- Highly organized, able to efficiently prioritize.
- Proactively solicit opinions and ideas. Curious and enthusiastic to learn and grow.
- Able to commit to the time requirement of the UHSF program.

FNCE 317/601 and FNCE 473/663 serve as the pre-requisite and co-requisite, respectively, for enrolment in the Fund (FNCE 669), but these may be waived at the instructor’s discretion. Students will receive a half-course credit for FNCE 669 after completing two years of involvement with the Fund. The course component of this program is currently offered Friday afternoons. Please note that once accepted, students are enrolled in UHSF for two years to receive credit for the FNCE469/669, a typical finance elective which may count towards finance concentration.

How to apply:

The Fund Managers and Associates at the UCeed Haskayne Student Fund are committed to building and fostering a fair and inclusive community that values diversity and encourages respect for all. We welcome and encourage applicants across any race, colour, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, protected veteran status, Indigenous status, or any other legally-protected factors. We believe in the power of diversity of thought and lived experience.

1. Applications will be accepted via this link*.
2. If you have questions, please email UHSF instructor, Kanwal Bokhari, at kanwal.bokhari@ucalgary.ca or Liam Harrison at lharrison@innovatecalgary.com.
3. Visit the Fund’s LinkedIn page if you’d like to connect with current and former UHSF students to learn about their experiences in the UHSF.

*Download PDF to access links and be logged into your UCalgary Microsoft account to submit your application.