

ATLANTA URBAN CORPS

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TO: Mayor Ivan Allen

Date: August 7, 1969

FROM: Sam Williams *Sam*

SUBJECT: Needed Letter to James E. Allen, Jr., U. S. Commissioner
of Education

The Federal College Work-Study Program (CWSP) provides 80% of a certified student's stipend while working as an Urban Corps intern. The employing agency pays the 20% requisite fee.

Unfortunately, intern programs require staffing to handle administrative problems. We also have found that having a competent field staff to prod agencies and interns helps to keep the student's experience "relevant." This year city government paid roughly one-third of full administrative summer cost of \$30,000 plus matching stipend for 114 interns assigned to city departments. Due to the difficulty of obtaining additional administrative funds from limited city sources, we must seek funds elsewhere for September - June internships. It is almost impossible to plan a budget pending business donations.

In my opinion the Office of Education should allow off-campus agencies such as the Urban Corps an administrative fee. Presently colleges can be paid a 3% administrative fee for CWSP money channeled through that campus. This provision was originally created to help campuses defray costs of directing students working "on campus." Colleges are still allowed to keep this 3% fee even if their CWSP funds are spent through an "off-campus" agency such as the Urban Corps at relatively no cost to the campus.

If you agree, I recommend that you write Commissioner Allen a letter similar to the following, which hopefully will initiate action to revise the administrative allocation.

"The College Work-Study Program of the Office of Education has provided the City of Atlanta a unique opportunity to utilize college students in internship positions proving beneficial to the student in terms of education and the city in terms of services. The Atlanta Urban Corps involved 225 such interns throughout the city in government, as well as private agencies.

"We appreciate your interest in involving colleges in our urban problems and especially your statements concerning a major utilization of work-study funds "off-campus" in programs such as our Urban Corps. Your Regional staff has been actively promoting planning to help implement your guidelines for Atlanta.

"This year administrative expenses for the Urban Corps were shouldered by city government and private agencies but will increase appreciably next year if projections of 1,000 interns prove correct. I understand that a three percent fee on each campus' allocation can be kept by participating colleges for compensation of their administrative burdens. In my opinion this fee should be increased to at least five percent and allocated to the off-campus agency calculated on the basis of the off-campus grant. This amount would help defray a portion of the administrative agency's operating costs.

"Please consider this suggestion and let me know if we might discuss it at a greater length."