FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is required of the participating board?
Each board provides a contact person who serves as a mentor to the student. Prior to the first board meeting, a lead staff member and/or the mentor should provide information on the organization’s structure, operations and mission. The mentor provides background information on the board’s work, introduces the student to the board, ensures communication about meeting schedules, encourages opportunities for student engagement, and is responsible for any supervision of student work.

What is required of the participating student?
Students are responsible for attending all regularly scheduled meetings. There is no minimum number of hours that students are required to participate; students are expected to actively participate, depending on the board’s needs and the student’s academic schedule. At the end of their fellowship, students provide Career Services with written feedback about their board experience.

How long is the Board Fellowship?
The board fellowship lasts for the duration of the academic year, August through May. If a board requests that a student be matched outside of these parameters, we make every effort to accommodate that request. Students may continue with their assigned board for a second year with mutual agreement from the board.

How are boards accepted into the program and how are students assigned to boards?
We begin receiving applications from prospective boards in late spring and early summer, though we welcome inquiries and applications at any time. Boards are accepted into the program upon review of their application and willingness to help students learn about the roles and work of nonprofit boards. Student applications are due to the Career Services Office during spring semester. We place students on boards based on their application materials, expressed areas of interest, and passion for an organization’s mission. Students will be assigned to a board by the beginning of autumn semester.

What are the next steps after a student is matched with a board?
Students will be given the name and contact information of their mentor. They will then initiate contact with their mentor to introduce themselves and arrange a first meeting. The new Board Fellows are required to attend a mandatory orientation at Moritz, where current fellows discuss ways in which students can contribute and maximize their experience. In addition, Moritz alumni who work with nonprofits explain how boards are organized and the responsibilities of being on a board.