



Office of Graduate Fellowships

Fellowship Opportunities for:

Professional Development in Public Service, Policy, and International Affairs

Introduction

This special category of fellowships is made up of awards designed to help students embark on a career path or gain experience in a specialized professional setting. They are most commonly offered by government agencies, NGOs, nonprofits, think tanks, or organizations devoted to research and advocacy on particular issues with the goal of offering promising candidates an on-ramp into a career in public service or policymaking. The Fellow benefits by gaining experience, training, and networking opportunities, while the organization gains access to a pool of early-career talent.

In these competitions, the “award” usually consists of a paid professional development experience or work placement that supplements academic study or begins as soon as the student graduates. (Some awards also require prior professional experience.) Professional development fellowships are similar to internships but typically offer a higher level of professional experience, longer duration, and compensation in line with entry-level professional salaries in the field. Professional development fellowships do NOT usually offer support for tuition or other costs of education.

Many awards in this category are targeted at Master’s students or recent graduates of Master’s-level programs, including professional degrees in law, business, policy, the like. However, an increasing number also seek to recruit PhD students and post-docs interested in exploring careers beyond the professoriate. Some awards are also open to individuals holding only a bachelor’s degree – that is, graduating seniors, recent graduates, and graduates with early career professional experience.

What follows is not a comprehensive list, but rather a sampling of some of the better-known programs of this type. Mason students and alumni seeking professional development fellowships are encouraged to use search tools and consult with the Director of Graduate Fellowships to identify other possible opportunities in their area of interest.

American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) Public Fellows Program

<http://www.acls.org/programs/publicfellows/>

The ACLS Public Fellows program places recent PhDs from the humanities and social sciences in two-year staff positions at partnering organizations in government and the nonprofit sector. Fellows participate in the substantive work of these organizations and receive professional mentoring. Available placements (and their locations) vary each year. The fellowship provides a stipend of \$65,000 per year as well as individual health insurance. Deadline: March.

American Association of University Women Career Development Grants

<http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/educational-funding-and-awards/career-development-grants/>

AAUW Career Development Grants provide funding to women who hold a bachelor's degree and are preparing to change careers or re-enter the workforce. Preference is given to women of color and women pursuing their first advanced degree or credentials in nontraditional fields. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents whose last degree was received at least five years ago. Grants provide support for course work beyond a bachelor's degree, including a master's degree, second bachelor's degree, certification program, or specialized training in technical fields. Funds are not available for doctorate-level work. Deadline: December.

American Geosciences Institute (AGI) Fellowships

<http://www.americangeosciences.org/policy/internships-and-fellowships>

AGI offers fellowships (and paid internships) in geoscience policy at the bachelor's, master's, and Ph.D. level. Fellowships offer the opportunity to gain first-hand experience in the legislative process and to make practical contributions to the effective and timely use of geoscience information on issues relating to the environment, resources, natural hazards, and federal science policy. Fellows work at AGI in Alexandria, VA. Duration and compensation vary by award.

American Political Science Association (APSA) Congressional Fellowship Program

<http://www.apsanet.org/cfp>

The American Political Science Association offers a nine-month fellowship for journalists, doctors, federal executives and international scholars to gain "hands on" understanding of the legislative process by serving on congressional staffs. Various categories of fellowship exist within this program, focusing on different areas of professional expertise (particularly political science, journalism / communications, and health policy.) Candidates must be either (a) advanced doctoral students or (b) have completed a Ph.D. within the past 15 years. (Journalism and medical professionals have different eligibility requirements that do not require Ph.D. level work.) This award is aimed at early-to-mid-career professionals with relevant professional experience and goals, as well as a scholarly interest in Congress and the policy making process. U.S. citizenship or residency required. Application deadline varies by field of interest.

Alfa Fellowship Program (Russia)

<http://culturalvistas.org/programs-for-students-and-professionals/professional-fellowships/alfa-fellowship>

The Alfa Fellowship Program is a high-level professional development exchange program placing qualified young professionals (age 25-35) in work assignments at leading organizations in Russia in the fields of business, economics, journalism, law, and public policy. The program accepts up to 10 American and 5 British citizens per year. The program includes language training, seminar programs, and extended professional experience. Fellows receive travel, free housing, monthly stipends, and insurance. Deadline: December 1.

Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS) Congressional Fellowship

<http://apaics.org/congressional-fellows/>

The APAICS Fellowships offers Asian and Pacific American students and young professionals a one-year placement in a professional development fellowship in Washington D.C. dealing with legislative and public policy relating the Asian and Pacific American issues. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree or higher in hand at the time of application, and may be continuing graduate students or recent alumni of a master's or doctoral program. Deadline: April.

Bosch Foundation Fellowship Program (Germany)

<http://culturalvistas.org/programs-for-students-and-professionals/professional-fellowships/robert-bosch-foundation-fellowship-program>

The Robert Bosch Foundation Fellowship Program is a transatlantic initiative that each year offers twenty Americans the opportunity to complete a high-level professional development program in Germany. Over the course of 6-9 months, Bosch Fellows engage in work assignments at leading German institutions and attend 3 seminars with key decision-makers from the public and private sectors. Fellows are recruited from business administration, journalism, law, public policy and related fields. A graduate degree and five years of relevant professional experience are required; applicants must be age 40 or under. German language skills are NOT required at the time of application, though they will be considered an asset. Non-German speaking awardees commit to an intensive pre-departure language program. Deadline: November 1.

Bryce Harlow Fellowships

<https://bryceharlow.org/programs/the-fellowship/>

Awarded to students who work full time while attending graduate school part time, and who are pursuing a career in professional advocacy via a career in government relations, advocacy, or lobbying. The award is \$8,000, to be used to offset the cost of tuition and fees during the fellowship year (\$4,000 per semester.) Fellows also receive special mentorship and professional development opportunities. Open to U.S. citizens in any academic field. Deadline: April.

Carter Center Graduate Assistantship Program

<http://www.cartercenter.org/involved/internship/grad-assistantship-overview.html>

The Carter Center offers assistantships at its headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia. Applicants must be currently enrolled master's and doctoral students with at least one remaining semester of graduate study. Graduate assistants must make a 9-12 month, 20-hours-per-week commitment and will receive compensation of \$14/hour. Program areas include: Americas, China, Conflict Resolution, Democracy, Health, Human Rights, and Mental Health. Application period is March-June. Note that graduate students and recent graduates are also eligible to apply to Carter Center Internships, but these are unpaid.

Catholic Relief Services International Development Fellows Program (IDFP)

<http://crs.org/about/careers/fellowships/>

The CRS International Development Fellows Program (IDFP) gives individuals with graduate degrees who are interested in a career in international relief and development an opportunity to increase their overseas experience and gain exposure to CRS programs. Each year, CRS places approximately 20-30 fellows with CRS country programs overseas. Assignments are paid and run for 8-12 months, with job responsibilities varying from one country to another. Most fellowships lead to regular positions with CRS. Applicants must have a graduate degree in hand by the time the fellowship begins, plus 12 months previous experience in a developing country setting and a high level of proficiency in French (preferred), Spanish, or Arabic. Deadline for priority considers is December 1.

Christine Mirzayan Science & Technology Policy Graduate Fellowship Program

<http://sites.nationalacademies.org/pga/policyfellows/>

Funds graduate students and recent graduate degree recipients to participate in a 12-week DC-based program focused on science and technology policy. Open to students in social/behavioral sciences, medical/health disciplines, physical or biological sciences, any field of engineering, law/business/public administration, or any relevant interdisciplinary field. Application deadline falls in September and fellowship term begins in January. Fellows are expected dedicate themselves full time to the fellowship during the spring semester.

Congressional Black Caucus Congressional Fellows Program

<http://www.cbcfinc.org/fellowships/>

The CBC Congressional Fellows program aims to increase the number of African Americans working as professional staff in the U.S. Congress through this two-year paid professional development experience on Capitol Hill. Open to candidates who will have completed a graduate degree by the start date of the program (September). The ideal candidate will possess demonstrated interest in public policy and commitment to creating and implementing policy to improve the living conditions for underserved and underrepresented individuals, plus familiarity with the federal legislative process and the CBC. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or have the right to work in the U.S. for the duration of the fellowship. Fellows are paid \$40,000 per year plus benefits. Deadline: March.

Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Graduate Fellowship Program

http://chci.org/programs/graduate_fellowship/

CHCI's Graduate Fellowship Program is designed for exceptional emerging Latino leaders who want to immerse themselves in a specific public policy area. This paid, nine-month fellowship provides valuable work experience, access to powerful Latino network, and a chance to showcase your public policy knowledge on Capitol Hill. Focus areas are: higher education, secondary education, health, housing, law, and STEM fields. The fellowship consists of placements in policy-making positions in and around Washington D.C. and offers salary, benefits, and professional development/networking opportunities. Deadline: February.

David A. Winston Health Policy Fellowship

<http://www.winstonfellowship.org/home.html>

The Winston Fellowship is a year-long fellowship in Washington, D.C. open to students who will graduate by the start of the fellowship (June) from a program in any field of study at a university that is a member of the Association of University Programs in Health Administration (including Mason.) Students who do NOT have prior work experience in the field of health policy, but who aspire to such careers, will be given preference. Non-U.S. citizens may apply if eligible to work in the U.S. post-graduation. Deadline is in October, and fellowship commences in June.

District of Columbia Capital City Fellows Program (CCFP)

<http://dchr.dc.gov/page/capital-city-fellows-program>

CCFP recruits recent graduates of master's degree programs in public administration, public policy, urban planning and related fields to work for the city of Washington, DC. Candidates compete for 18-month fellowship appointments consisting of three six-month rotations in different city agencies. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or legal residents. Fellows are appointed at a salary of \$53,000. Deadline: May.

Education Pioneers Graduate Fellowship

<http://educationpioneers.org/what-we-do/programs/graduate-school-fellowship>

These summer and yearlong fellowship placements offer professional development and leadership training opportunities to graduate students (and recent college graduates) in Education and related fields. Candidates must have completed at least one year of graduate study (or hold a graduate degree) and possess two years of relevant professional experience. Non-U.S. citizens must possess authorization to work in the U.S. Deadline: Varies.

EMDAP (Emerging Markets Development Assistance Program)

<http://www.iese.org/en/Programs/EMDAP>

A professional development fellowship with USAID, EMDAP is open to recent or graduating MA/MS or MBA students with a minimum of two years relevant professional experience in fields related to international affairs, international business/finance, or management. Fellows are awarded a yearlong work placement with USAID overseas, where they work collaboratively with USAID programs and local NGOs. Deadline: Rolling as positions become available.

EMGIP (Émigré Memorial German Internship Program)

<http://culturalvistas.org/programs-for-students-and-professionals/professional-fellowships/emgip>

Opportunities for U.S. and Canadian citizens to intern at German state parliaments for 1-3 months with travel and other expenses paid. Applicants may be graduate or undergraduate students between 18-30 years of age. For list of eligible fields see web site, but generally targeted at public policy related fields. Proficiency in German is required. Deadlines: October 1 for spring internships; December 1 for early summer internships; March 31 for fall internships.

Emerson National Hunger Fellows Program (Congressional Hunger Center)

<http://www.hungercenter.org/fellowships/emerson/>

Ten-month paid professional development fellowship in which fellows serve overseas for five months in a community-based organization (nationwide) dealing with issues of hunger and food security, and five months in a policy-making setting (government agency or NGO) in the D.C. metro area. Applicants should have a bachelor's degree in hand and some past experience with anti-hunger or anti-poverty work. Deadline: January.

Fulbright Clinton Fellowships (Fulbright Public Policy Fellowships)

<http://us.fulbrightonline.org/fulbright-clinton-fellowships>

The Fulbright Clinton Fellowships seek graduating (or recently graduated) Master's and/or current Ph.D. students for one-year overseas placements working as a special assistant in a public policy / public sector setting in the host country. Applicants must possess a minimum of two years relevant professional experience in addition to academic qualifications. The countries in which placements will be offered are listed on the web site (and updated each summer). Applicants with in-depth knowledge of the host country and language skills sufficient to function in a professional setting in the host country are strongly preferred. Applicant must be a U.S. citizen and may not have completed the Ph.D. by the time of the fellowship. Application deadline: October. Mason applicants must participate in a campus review process in the month of September to obtain university endorsement. Please contact the Office of Graduate Fellowships for more information.

German Chancellor Fellowship

<http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/german-chancellor-fellowship.html>

This program is for university graduates from the U.S., the Russian Federation, Brazil, India and China with an interest in international issues and demonstrated leadership potential. It is targeted at young professionals who are likely to become decision-makers and thought leaders in their respective fields, including but not limited to politics, public policy, law, media, business, the non-governmental sector, and the arts. Fellows spend one year in Germany, where they will conduct an independent project at a home institution and network with other prospective leaders from abroad. Application opens in March, with a deadline of October 15 for US applicants.

Global Health Corps Fellowship

<http://ghcorps.org/fellows/apply/>

The Global Health Corps seeks to cultivate emerging leaders working for global health equality through work placements in NGOs and similar organizations in the U.S. and sub-Saharan Africa dealing with health, health care, health policy, health communication, and related issues. Placements are for one year and are currently available in Malawi, Rwanda, Uganda, USA, and Zambia. Applicant must have a bachelor's degree in hand and be age 30 or under at the start of the fellowship. Deadline. February.

Herbert Scoville Peace Fellowship

<http://scoville.org/>

The Scoville Fellowship funds students for 6-9 month work placements in Washington D.C. with nonprofit, public-interest organizations addressing peace and security issues. Bachelor's degree required, meaning this award is open to graduating seniors as well as graduate students. Graduate students must commit to work full time for at least six months during their time as fellows. Stipend of \$2,400 per month plus travel and health insurance. Preference is given to candidates who have not had substantial prior public interest or government work experience in the Washington D.C. area. Non-U.S. citizens may apply if they have permission to work in the U.S. Deadline: October and January.

Human Rights Watch Fellowships in International Human Rights

<http://www.hrw.org/en/about/fellowships>

For recent graduates (Master's or JD) in journalism, international relations, area studies, law, or other relevant disciplines. Fellows work full-time for one year with Human Rights Watch, typically in New York or Washington, D.C., and in some instances in other locations. Open to students completing a relevant graduate degree in the year of application and those who are recent graduates of Master's and JD programs. No citizenship restrictions. Proficiency in at least one foreign language and knowledge of countries/regions where there are significant human rights concerns is strongly preferred. Salary is \$55,000 plus benefits. Deadline: Early October (for awards beginning the following year in September.)

Ian Axford Fellowships in Public Policy (New Zealand)

<http://www.fulbright.org.nz/awards/usscholar/axford/>

For outstanding mid-career American professionals to research and gain firsthand experience of public policy in New Zealand. Eligible candidates are U.S. citizens with a minimum of 5 years professional experience in the public, business, or non-profit sectors. Two to four Fellowships valued at up to NZ\$58,500 plus travel are granted each year, towards seven months of research. Deadline is April 1 annually for research to be conducted February 1 – August 31 of the following year.

Leland International Hunger Fellows Program

<http://www.hungercenter.org/fellowships/leland/>

Two-year professional development fellowship in which fellows serve internationally in both field and policy settings dedicated to the alleviation of hunger and poverty in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Open to Master's and doctoral candidates/recent graduates. At least one year of prior work/volunteer experience in a developing country is required. Limited to U.S. citizens and permanent residents. Application opens in October and deadline is in January in odd numbered years. The next deadline for this award will occur in January, 2017.

Mariam K. Chamberlain Fellowship in Women and Public Policy

<http://www.iwpr.org/about/fellowships>

Paid nine-month professional development fellowship / internship at the Institute for Women's Policy Research in Washington, D.C., related to women's issues in public policy. Open to students (of any gender) with BA/BS in hand (whether currently enrolled in graduate school or not). No citizenship restrictions. Compensation is \$31,000 plus benefits. Note that preferred research area varies from year to year. See website for this year's research areas. Deadline: February/March.

NYC Urban Fellows Program

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/html/work/urbanfellows.shtml>

The Urban Fellows Program is a highly selective nine-month fellowship that combines work in NYC Mayoral offices and City agencies with an intensive seminar series that explores current urban issues impacting public policy. Eligibility is based on when the candidate received the bachelor's degree. Graduate students who are eligible may apply, but will be expected to suspend graduate study and outside work during the fellowship. \$30,000 plus benefits. Deadline: January (for awards beginning the following September.)

NNSA Graduate Fellowship Program (Nonproliferation Graduate Fellowship)

<http://ngfp.pnnl.gov/>

This 12-month, full-time, salaried fellowship program provides participants with specialized training and practical experience on projects and initiatives relating to issue of nonproliferation. In addition to gaining valuable experience working with federal government programs, participants have opportunities to collaborate with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), as well as other government agencies, national laboratories, and non-governmental organizations. Candidates with both policy and technical focus are considered. Stipend is \$52,000 (\$62,000 for post-doctoral fellows) plus other benefits. Deadline: October (award placements begin in June.)

PMF (Presidential Management Fellowship)

<http://www.pmf.gov/>

The PMF program is the premier pathway into U.S. federal government service for entry-level professionals with graduate degrees. It is open to all fields and includes a separate application track for candidates in STEM fields. Students apply during their final year in graduate school or up to two years post-graduation. Finalists in the competition win the opportunity to complete a two-year work assignment in a federal agency with full salary and benefits, and with the possibility (not guaranteed) of conversion to a permanent job offer at the end of the two-year fellowship. Fellows also participate in special professional development and leadership training opportunities, as well as rotational assignments to offer a diversity of experience. Deadline for initial application: Fall, usually September or October.

USAID Global Health Fellows Program (GHFP-II)

<https://www.ghfp.net/>

The GHFP-II program identifies, recruits, hires and manages professional development for USAID's global health fellows and interns at all levels. Fellowships are generally two-year assignments, sometimes with the option to extend. In the US, placements can occur in USAID Bureaus, other federal agencies, and USAID partner organizations (usually but not always in the Washington DC metro area). Outside the US, placements can occur in Missions, Ministries, NGOs, and USAID partner country offices around the world. Internships include a cohort summer program based in Washington, DC, and both domestic and international internship opportunities throughout the year. Both fellowships and internships are compensated. Qualifications and deadlines vary according to the position, though in general fellowship placements will require higher levels of experience, whereas internships are targeted at students and early-career professionals. Current openings are posted at the web site and via subscription email list (sign up at the web site.)

Villers Fellowship for Healthcare Justice

<http://www.familiesusa.org/fellowships/the-villers-fellowship.html>

The Villers Fellow works as a full-time policy analyst in Families USA's Health Policy Department in Washington, D.C. During their year-long tenure, Villers Fellows work on Medicaid and enrollment policy issues and develop an understanding of the federal legislative and regulatory process. They will also be exposed to different advocacy strategies, including producing analytic reports, disseminating effective messages through the media, successful coalition building, and e-advocacy techniques. The fellowship runs from August through July, and Fellows will receive a compensatory package that includes an annual salary of approximately \$38,000 and excellent health care benefits. Deadline: January.

Wellstone Fellowship for Social Justice

<http://www.familiesusa.org/fellowships/wellstone-fellowship.html>

The Wellstone Fellowship is a year-long professional development award in Families USA's Health Policy Department in Washington, D.C., designed to increase the number of low-income, American Indian & Alaska Native, Asian American, Black/African American, Latino, and Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander social justice leaders. The Wellstone Fellow's primary responsibilities include drafting talking points, blogs, fact sheets, and other publications, as well as developing content for the Families USA website and email lists that promotes health equity and the reduction and elimination of disparities in health and health care. The fellowship runs from August through July, and Fellows will receive a compensatory package that includes an annual salary of approximately \$38,000 and excellent health care benefits. Deadline: February

White House Fellows Program

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/participate/fellows>

Founded in 1964 by Lyndon B. Johnson, the White House Fellows program is one of America's most prestigious programs for leadership and public service. White House Fellowships offer exceptional young men and women first-hand experience working at the highest levels of the federal government. Selected individuals typically spend a year working as a full-time, paid Fellow to senior White House Staff, Cabinet Secretaries and other top-ranking government officials. Fellows also participate in an education program consisting of roundtable discussions with renowned leaders from the private and public sectors, and trips to study U.S. policy in action both domestically and internationally. The program seeks individuals with a record of remarkable early-career professional achievement, evidence of leadership skills and the potential for further growth, and a demonstrated commitment to public service. Application deadline: January.

William Randolph Hearst Endowed Fellowship for Minority Students

<http://www.aspeninstitute.org/policy-work/nonprofit-philanthropy/leadership-initiatives/hearst>

The Aspen Institute Program on Philanthropy and Social Innovation (PSI) in Washington, DC, offers the William Randolph Hearst Endowed Fellowship to one student three times annually. The fellowship, which is based on academic excellence and need, is open to both undergraduate and graduate students of color. The Hearst Fellow serves as an intern with PSI in the Washington, DC office of the Aspen Institute. Through this fellowship, PSI seeks to introduce a diverse group of students to issues and challenges affecting philanthropy, social enterprise, nonprofit organizations, and other actors in the social sector. Application deadlines fall in December, February, and July.

Wilson Center Grants and Fellowships

<http://www.wilsoncenter.org/fellowships-grants>

The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars welcomes outstanding and award winning scholars, practitioners, journalists and public intellectuals to take part in its non-partisan dialogue. Each year, the Center hosts around 160 scholars who conduct independent research on national and/or international issues addressing key public policy challenges. Fellowships include an internationally competitive residential fellowship focused on public policy issues in addition to other fellowships focused on Eastern Europe, Japan, and on Human Rights and Conflict Resolution. Most fellowships take place in residence at the Wilson Center or affiliated institutes in Washington D.C. Deadlines vary by competition.

ZOOM Public Policy Fellowship (Connecticut)

<https://www.zoomfoundation.org/default.asp?P=901663&S=901664>

The ZOOM Fellowship is a one-year work placement designed to develop a sustainable public service leadership pipeline in the state of Connecticut. The Fellowship will support select emerging leaders to increase their impact through the opportunity to work on high-level policy projects in Connecticut and participation in an intensive professional development and network-building program. Applicants need not be from CT, but must have an interest in gaining public policy experience at the state level in CT. Open to U.S. Citizens and Permanent Residents with a bachelor's degree and at least two years of work experience. Compensation begins at \$50,000. Graduate students must agree to suspend graduate study for the duration of the award. Deadline: February/March.