EVERY TEXAN’S HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY FELLOWSHIP

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICANTS

PURPOSE

Every Texan’s Policy Fellowship Program is a pilot initiative that provides selected Texas postsecondary students with the necessary resources, knowledge, and social justice framework to engage in and champion policy issues in higher education policy that are a part of a self-identified and self-constructed policy agenda.

In seeking to understand the systems and policies that affect and limit the accessibility of higher education from historical, financial, and systemic circumstances, the students will learn how to be their own best advocates against policies that fight against their inclusion.

Fellows will put their learnings to practice as they advance through the full life cycle of researching, creating, honing, and advocating for a co-written policy agenda. They will get significant resources to develop their leadership capabilities so that, in combination with the policy knowledge developed throughout the program, we are strategically building the public policy leadership pipeline for the present and future of Texas.
GENERAL REQUIREMENTS & ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be currently enrolled at a 2-4 year college or university in Texas for the fall 2021 semester with a commitment to maintaining their enrollment for the following spring 2022 semester.

Applicants must be willing to commit to a full academic-year program that consists of 180 hours (90 hours per semester/4-6 hours per week) of active engagement.

Applicants must be committed to fulfilling the Every Texan Fellowship Expectations (see below).

PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS

It is important to remember that if selected to take part in this program, there is a commitment to considerable time, effort, and engagement that is required and expected. During the academic year, you will be expected to read materials, watch informative content, author video and written materials, and attend learning sessions outside of weekly meeting times that will aid in the preparation for and execution of a co-written policy agenda. In order to receive the maximum benefit of this program, it is highly recommended that applicants determine if they have the time and willingness to participate in weekly virtual meetings to discuss the content of their assigned modules and theorize around potential origins and solutions to the problems affecting their communities and personal lives.

Every Texan is committed to creating a community of advocates, and fellows are expected to engage with and aid in the cultivation of their community as they embark on this journey together. Not only are fellows expected to learn, but they are also encouraged to connect and learn from the experiences of their fellow students to serve the greater good of the state.
PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS

The fellowship expectations include:

- Prepare for and attend weekly virtual meetings to discuss the topic assigned
- Meet with the program coordinator on a bi-weekly basis separately from group sessions to discuss issues, challenges, or other concerns related to the fellowship and their success in the fellowship
- Adhere to the community guidelines created by the cohort for the duration of the fellowship program in group and individual sessions
- Commit to at least 4-6 hours per week of engagement for the fellowship program
  - Engagement can include but is not limited to:
    - Regular attendance at weekly meetings
    - Weekly independent assignments
    - Weekly critical engagement with assigned readings
    - Semesterly-based attendance at policy summits
    - Weekly or bi-weekly attendance at externally-facing seminars and learning sessions
- Maintain enrollment in 2-4 year college or university
APPLICATION TIMELINE

Application Opens: June 1st, 2021

Application Closes: June 26th, 2021

Email Notification for Interviewees: July 1st

Interviews: July 5th-July 9th

Final Selection Email Notifications: July 16th

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Community Building

Community-Centered Leadership

The Legislative Process & Power-Mapping

Policy as a Tool for Combating Systemic Racism

Unearthing the Root of Texas Political Culture

Immigration & Policy in Texas

Community Resource Mapping

Race in Higher Education

The Relationship Between Policy Research & Political Influence

Defining Media as a Tool in Advocacy
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