



VOYAGER

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/get-involved/fellows/>

WCU Representative: Dr. Ingrid Bego (ibego@wcu.edu)

OVERVIEW AND INTRODUCTION

Pays for Recent Graduates to Work One Year as White House Assistants

The White House Fellows program offers college graduates who are working in their profession a chance to spend a year as full-time, paid assistants to senior White House staff, including the Vice President. Fellows spend the year chairing interagency meetings, designing and implementing federal policies, drafting speeches for cabinet secretaries, and representing the Fellows' assigned agency on Capitol Hill and in international treaty negotiations.

ELIGIBILITY

- Applicants must be U.S. citizens.
- Applicants must not be employees of the Federal government unless they are career military personnel.
- Applicants must have completed their undergraduate education by the time they begin the application process.
- While there is no age restriction, the Fellowship program was created to give selected Americans the experience of government service early in their careers.

HOW TO APPLY

Submit your 3 required recommendations through the application portal. See [the explanation provided here](#) for more information on the process.

The selection process is very competitive. The White House Fellows Program office processes the applications, and former Fellows screen the applications, to identify the most promising candidates. Approximately one hundred of the most qualified applicants are selected to be Regional Finalists and are interviewed by eight to ten regional panels, which are composed of prominent local citizens. Chosen candidates then proceed to Selection Weekend for the final round of interviews.

The President's Commission on White House Fellowships awards Fellowships on a strictly non-partisan basis, and encourages balance and diversity in all aspects of the program.

FOR RECOMMENDERS

Selection Criteria

- Record of remarkable professional achievement early in one's career.
- Evidence of leadership skills and the potential for future growth.
- A demonstrated commitment to public service.
- The skills to succeed at the highest levels of the Federal government, and the ability to work effectively as part of a team.
- Recommendation Letters: Names and email addresses of three recommenders and one alternate must be submitted within the application portal. One must be from someone who can speak to professional competence and accomplishments, another from someone familiar with the applicant's community and civic activities, and the third from a current supervisor. A past supervisor can be used if necessary.

Important Tips:

- Work on professional achievements to develop a professional record.

- Engage in community service or public service.
- Submit recommenders early so they have time to write their letters and turn them in before the application deadline.
- Take part in events that demonstrate leadership skills and teamwork.
- Exceptional writing ability, positive attitude, strong management skills, and the ability to work effectively as part of a team are all important applicant qualities.
- If chosen, applicants should prepare for interviews by knowing the application materials well, current events, and current key issues in the applicant's professional field. Applicants should be able to articulate how they fit the White House Fellows Program.