



WHITE HOUSE FELLOWS PROGRAM



“A genuinely free society cannot be a spectator society ... It requires full and zestful, knowledgeable participation.”

— President Lyndon B. Johnson, who established the Fellowship in 1964. The Fellowship has been strongly supported by every administration since the Program's founding.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Founded in 1964, the President's Commission on White House Fellowships is the nation's premier program for leadership and public service. The White House Fellowship offers exceptional Americans first-hand experience working at the highest levels of the Federal government. After a competitive application process, selected individuals spend a year in Washington, D.C. working as a full-time, paid Fellow aiding Cabinet Secretaries, senior White House staff, 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. Fellowships are awarded on a strictly non-partisan basis.

More than 800 Americans have been White House Fellows. Through this rich diversity of talent and experience, the Fellows family is united by an enduring commitment to public service.



Sanjay Gupta
Class of 1997–98
*Chief Medical Correspondent,
CNN*



Doris Kearns Goodwin
Class of 1967–68
Presidential Historian & Author



Colin Powell (1937-2021)
Class of 1972–73
Former Secretary of State



Samar Ali
Class of 2010–11
*President/CEO,
Millions of Conversations*

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

WORK PLACEMENT

The primary aim of the Fellowship is to place the Fellows in a work environment where positive role models provide mentorship and guidance. The work placement is at the highest levels of government, and Fellows serve as special assistants to Cabinet officers and senior White House Staff in order to tap the Fellows' full capacity and develop their abilities further. Fellows are not always assigned to an agency associated with the Fellow's area of expertise.

EDUCATION PROGRAM

The education program supplements the Fellows' experience in their placements by providing off-the-record, candid discussions with distinguished leaders. Through the education program, Fellows gain valuable insights into the decision-making processes used to solve complex issues. They also learn about various management philosophies and leadership styles.

POLICY TRIPS

In some years, Fellows may have the opportunity to conduct Policy trips in the US, and potentially abroad, that allow them to explore firsthand the impact of national and foreign policy.

CLASS FELLOWSHIP

Among the most enriching components of the program is class fellowship, which often results in enduring friendships. Alumni convene at yearly meetings in Washington, DC and welcome new Fellows into one of the most prestigious networks of professionals and leaders in the country.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Demonstrated unusual ability, outstanding motivation, and a broad capacity for leadership.
- Show exceptional promise of future development.
- Are dedicated to the institutions of the United States and the values of American civilization.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

- Applicant must be a U.S. citizen.
- Federal government employees are not eligible, with the exception of career military personnel and some special government employees.
- Applicants must have completed their undergraduate education.
- Applications are available online in November and are due in January of each year and the Fellowship runs from September to August.



PROGRAM IMPACT

For more than five decades, the White House Fellowship has served diverse administrations and, through the cross-fertilization of ideas and experience, has enriched the practice of public policy.

Fellows make notable contributions during their year of service and continue to impact our communities, our country, and the world long after their Fellowship year.



Cesar Conde
Class of 2002–03
*Chairman,
NBCUniversal News Group*



Sharice Davids
Class of 2016–17
U.S. Rep., Kansas 3rd District



J. Nadine Gracia
Class of 2008–09
*President & CEO,
Trust for America's Health*



Paul Gigot
Class of 1986–87
*Editorial Page Editor/VP
The Wall Street Journal*



Scott Berns
Class of 2000–01
*President and CEO,
National Institute for Children's
Health Quality*



Nicole Malachowski
Class of 2008–09
*First female pilot of the
USAF Thunderbirds*



Anjali Tripathi
Class of 2016–17
*NASA Exoplanet Exploration
Science Ambassador*

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and apply!
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