

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Leadership in Government Fellowship

U.S. Programs

Will I need to relocate to New York, or can I work from my current residence?

Selected fellows will not need to relocate to New York, where the U.S. Programs of the Open Society Foundations is based. Fellows will work from the city they are based in, and occasional check-ins with OSF staff will be held via phone or video conference.

Will I be required to travel as a condition of this fellowship?

Travel to the OSF offices in New York City and one other location within the United States will be required within the term of your fellowship, in order to participate in an orientation and cohort convenings. Other requests for participation in OSF events may occur, but are not mandatory. Other travel is determined by fellows as required by the scope of their project proposal.

Are you only looking for senior-level staffers, or are elected and appointed officials also eligible?

People with all types of government experience from city, county, tribal, state and federal levels are encouraged to apply, including elected and appointed officials. For example, we have considered individuals with the following titles: Deputy Mayor, Commissioner, Chief of Staff, Sheriff, City Manager, Counsel, Senior Policy Advisor, Legislative Director, and Assistant Undersecretary.

Can I continue to work for the government while pursuing this fellowship?

No, fellows must have completed their government employment before beginning their fellowship.

Can I pursue other funding opportunities during my fellowship?

The fellowship accounts for a certain percentage of your work week. You can pursue other work or

endeavors, such as consultancies or other fellowships, for your remaining time. However, you cannot have full-time employment during your fellowship term, nor be a government employee or contractor.

Do I need a particular level of education or particular degree to participate in the fellowship?

No specific degree is needed to apply for the fellowship.

When can I expect to hear back about my application?

All applicants will have a response via email from OSF by mid-September 2018.

How will interviews be conducted and when will fellows be notified?

Interviews will be conducted in person by a selection committee the week of September 24, 2018 at our offices in New York. Successful candidates will be notified in early to mid-October 2018.

Can I defer my acceptance?

No, deferment is not an option. Fellows must begin their fellowship by January 2019, with a possibility to begin the fellowship earlier on a case-by-case basis.