



IAFPE | POLITICAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

PURPOSE: IAFPE Fellowship program seeks to increase the engagement of Indian American students in the Massachusetts state political system by placing applicants in 2-3 month political fellowships with the requirement that they give back to their community through a structured community project. This is an exciting opportunity to learn more about Massachusetts state politics while being involved in your community. Fellows will have the opportunity to:

- Meet political figures from across the state.
- Learn about legislation and the legislative process, different branches of government and be part of a structured State House internship program that exposes participants to the inner workings of the MA political system.
- Work with community organizations on advocacy and community based projects.
- Couple fellowship with a project in legislator's district.
- Design your own community project with the opportunity to present at an IAFPE forum.

CANDIDATE SELECTION PROCESS

- Application deadline: **May 20, 2023**
- Notification by: **June 15, 2023**
- Email submissions to: IAFPEFellowship@gmail.com

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Must be US citizens or permanent residents of Indian origin.
- Must be current college students in good academic standing and have a demonstrated interest or experience in politics or community service.
- Commit to fellowship at least 3 days a week to get maximum benefit of program.
- All candidates are subject to a pre-screen phone interview as part of the application process. If candidates pass the pre-screen interview and their application is considered strong, a follow up in-person interview between Intern-Coordinator and candidate must be conducted.

MATERIALS TO INCLUDE IN COMPLETED APPLICATION

- **Resume**
- **Cover Letter**
- **Unofficial college transcript**
- **Completed IAFPE written application**
- **2 references we can call or 2 written recommendations.**

OBLIGATIONS FOR FELLOWS

- Communicate with Intern Coordinator on a regular basis, with frequency to be mutually agreed upon between the two parties. This ensures they are provided with the support and guidance they need to satisfy intern tasks and responsibilities. This is very important, since interns represent IAFPE in official public offices. Misconduct by an intern can damage the reputation of IAFPE among contacts in the political field.
- Coordinate and implement a small-scale project that can serve to give back to the Indian American or to the community in which they live. The Fellowship Coordinator will be responsible for project oversight.



IAFPE | POLITICAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM 2023 APPLICATION

Email submissions to:
IAFPEFellowship@gmail.com

I. Personal Information:

Name:
Current Address:
Current Address Valid Until:
Phone Number:
Permanent Address:
Permanent Phone Number:
E-Mail Address:

II. Educational Information:

Name of the College/University:
Year of Graduation:
Major(s):
Career Interest(s):

III. Fellowship Placement Preference:

Majority of fellowship placements will be in Massachusetts and generally in the Boston area. Please rank (1, 2, 3...) the type of fellowship placement you are interested in:
(Please note: As per individual program requirements, some fellowships may require submission of additional application materials or information:

Placement	Rank	Your Representative
US Senator	_____	_____
US Congressman	_____	_____
State Senator	_____	_____
State Representative	_____	_____
Government Agency (Specify)	_____	_____
Advocacy Group (Specify)	_____	_____
Other (Specify)	_____	_____
Does not matter	_____	_____

Dates Available: _____	Hours Available: _____
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**Dates available should not include vacation time overlapping with duration of fellowship.
 Hours available should be a minimum of 24 hrs/week.

Please indicate areas of interest for fellowship (mark all that apply):

Government Affairs	___	Health Policy
Community Development	___	Law & Society
Science & Technology	___	Environmental Policy
Campaigns/Conventions	___	Journalism/Media

IV. How did you hear about the Fellowship Program? (Please mark all that apply)

Past Fellows	___	IAFPE Member	_____
IAFPE E-mail	___	Campus Poster/Flyer	_____
Campus Career Center	___	Community Radio/TV/News Publication	_____
Campus Student Organization	___	Other	_____
IAFPE E-mail/Publication	___		

V. Have you applied for any other political internships or fellowships in the Boston area that overlap with the duration of the IAFPE Political Fellowship? If so please list them below:

VI. Required Materials to Include:

With this completed application form please include the following materials:

- **Resume**
- **Cover Letter**
- **Unofficial college transcript**
- **2 references we can call or 2 written recommendations**

VII. Short Question Section:

Please address the following questions in a response and include it with your application. Limit the answer to each question to 100 words or less

1. How did you become interested in public service?
2. What do you hope to accomplish during your political fellowship?
3. Why do you want a fellowship through the Forum? How will it help you accomplish your career goals?
4. What experiences have you had in the Indian community that inspired you to a political fellowship with the Forum?
5. Besides jobs/economy, what do you think is the most pressing political issue facing the Indian American community in Massachusetts? How could you help to resolve this issue?
6. What is an original idea you have for an Indian American Community Project that you have and how would you accomplish this project over the length of the fellowship?

IAFPE Potential Community Project Descriptions:

Self-Designed Community Project: Outline your idea of an appropriate community project for IAFPE approval. Compose a detailed plan on what you propose to do to, how, where, and when, and what resources you bring to the project as well as what assistance you may need. This can include partnering with another non-profit Indian American organization or a non-profit organization that helps serve the Indian American community in Massachusetts.

EX/ The Forum is currently working with Saheli to have our fellows provide community service to that organization. This summer we will be working to place IAFPE fellows in Saheli projects to help with data management and volunteerism.

Forum/Town Meetings: “Creating an Engaged Community”

Fellows work with IAFPE Forum members, other Indian American Associations and local politicians for a grassroots get together, to raise awareness in community of the local as well as larger picture of American democratic process, the Patriot Act and Civil Rights infringements. Fellows plan and execute a local town meeting; guest lists, publicity, conducting discussion etc. The IAFPE Fellowship Coordinator and local IAFPE members will assist with finding resources.

Journalism/publicity: Fellows cover IAFPE related news items and write articles about IAFPE events and events of interest to IAFPE for local media outlets; including but not limited to the Indian American media. Compose letters, brochures and other materials for IAFPE events.

Citizenship Drive Data Base Preparation: Fellows help provide mailing lists for publicity for Forum/Town Meetings, Immigration Clinics, Health Clinics and other related events. Fellows will gather names and addresses of Indian Americans into usable database (Excel) thru local phone books and other resources to add to IAFPE database.

Immigration Clinic & Health-Fair: Fellows plan and execute an Immigration Clinic or Health Fair. All details from publicity to inviting professionals and participants will be responsibility of fellows. The IAFPE Fellowship Coordinator and local IAFPE members will assist with finding resources.

Webmaster: Create forum for all IAFPE fellows and other members to keep in touch, exchange ideas, work and documents. Create private forum or IM forum/list for fellows, program coordinators and mentors to stay in touch with each other.