

# Host a Professional Fellow!

Spring 2024 Professional Fellows Program  
May 13 - June 7, 2024



To host a fellow, please submit an application online at:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DBHV3XG>

## About the Program

- The **Professional Fellows Program (PFP)** is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
- The goal of the program is to empower promising leaders from strategically important nations and share **good governance and legislative best practices** from the U.S. and Eurasia
- Fellows will be placed in **a variety of American organizations, universities, and state agencies** across the U.S. that address issues of governance and society
- Fellowship hosts are eligible to apply for **reciprocal exchange projects** to collaborate with program Fellows in their home countries

## About the Fellows

- Selected through a **highly competitive** application process
- Represent the next generation of **emerging leaders** (ages 25 to 35)
- Citizens of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, Serbia, Turkey, and Ukraine
- Have a professional background in **governance, civil society, and legislative affairs**
- Looking to expand their knowledge and create **lasting professional and personal networks** internationally
- **Fluent in English** and have undergone full orientation programs preparing them for fellowships in the U.S.
- **Vaccinated against COVID-19**



For more information, visit our website at <https://www.professionalfellows.americancouncils.org/>

# Frequently Asked Questions

**What is expected from a host organization?** To appoint a dedicated “PFP Fellowship Host” who is a) willing to supervise the Fellow and liaise weekly with the American Councils, and b) who is interested in working with the Fellow to develop their professional goals both in the United States and in their home country. American Councils will work with host organizations to develop meaningful and mutually beneficial fellowship experiences. Templates and guidance in this regard are available.

**What organizations hosted fellows in the past?** Fellows are placed in congressional offices, state legislatures, city halls, other government offices, and NGOs. Past placements have included the Law Library of Congress, U.S Congress Offices, United States Department of Agriculture Regional Office, Fulton County Public Defender's Office, California Legislative Counsel, New York General Assembly, Honolulu Mayor's Office, Colorado Tourism Office, Chicago Museum of Science and Industry, Search for Common Ground, Institute of Medicine, Lawyer's Committee for Civil Rights Under the Law, and others.

**How are Fellows selected?** They are selected through a competitive nationwide search that involves an extensive written application and in-person interviews with American Councils and U.S. Embassy staff.

**Will Fellows speak English well enough to perform tasks such as writing memos or answering phone calls?** Yes. While a Fellow's English may not be perfect, it will meet strict standards that ensure success in a professional English-speaking environment.

**How much will Fellows know about the U.S. system of business and our office in particular so that they may make the most of their time in the U.S.?** American Councils prepares pre-departure reading materials on various topics related to U.S. government. In addition, we will work with hosts to disseminate other information deemed necessary.

**What kinds of tasks can a Fellow perform?** Fellows can perform a wide variety of tasks, ranging from answering constituent letters to independent research. American Councils will work with hosts to design a meaningful and mutually beneficial program based on the Fellow's background and the host's needs.

**How many days a week will the Fellow be expected to be at the office in person?** We understand that each office has different in-person schedules, but we prefer the Fellow to be in the office at least three days a week. However, if you no longer have a physical office, American Councils can provide a modest stipend for the Fellow to work out of a co-working space.

**How will Fellows be monitored?** American Councils uses online surveys, email and telephone calls to monitor progress. We are always available to support both U.S. Placement Hosts and Fellows during the program.

**What are the obligations of a host? We'd love to have a Fellow but cannot commit to doing a lot of extra work in order to do so.** Hosting should not be seen as an obligation but rather a unique opportunity. Past hosts have enjoyed the international perspective Fellows brought to their workplace and commented that Fellows were able to successfully perform “real” work. American Councils will prepare Fellows so that they can “hit the ground running” and will help guide hosts in their preparation for the Fellow's arrival.

**What types of reciprocal exchange projects will Fellows and Americans create?** This is entirely up the Fellow and host. Past examples include a forum on Black Sea energy challenges, an organizational storytelling workshop in Turkey, and an overview of the judicial system in Moldova.