

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I apply?

Interested applicants must download the application and recommendation form from the website. All required documents must be submitted in one mailing to the Fellowship Office. The applicant is responsible for gathering all the needed documents. The application form, resume and essays as well as sealed letters of recommendation and official college transcript must be submitted together in one mailing. In our experience, recommenders are often busy. Please make sure to choose recommenders who can quickly respond to your request. Make sure to inform them of the deadline. Think of back up recommenders should you be delayed in getting back a letter. All application materials must arrive at the Fellowship Office no later than 5:00 p.m. by **Friday, January 6, 2012**.

How do I determine if I am eligible?

Eligibility is based on the date applicants received their undergraduate degree (BA, BS). Eligible candidates must receive (d) their bachelor's degree between Spring 2010 and Spring 2012. The Urban Fellows program is designed for recent college graduates.

Do I have to be a US citizen to apply?

Applicants do not have to be US citizens. However, applicants must be able to demonstrate their eligibility to work in the United States after graduation and for the entire fellowship period. Applicants must meet the criteria set forth by the I-9, "Employment Eligibility Verification," from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). The Urban Fellows Program does not sponsor work visas.

Can I go to graduate school part-time or at night while serving as a NYC Urban Fellow?

Fellows are expected to commit full-time to the nine-month fellowship. Due to the intensive nature of the fellowship, Fellows may not attend graduate school. If you are already enrolled in a master's degree program, you will need to suspend studies during the duration of this fellowship.

Can I defer my acceptance for one year?

No. Finalist must decide if they will accept the fellowship for the year or release the spot for an alternate. If eligible, a candidate can re-apply.

I received a master's degree in 2010. Am I eligible to apply for the program?

Eligibility is based on the year applicants receive (d) their Bachelor's degree. To be eligible, the degree must be received between Spring 2010 and Spring 2012.

Can I reapply to the program and use the two essays I already submitted?

Applicants may reapply if they are still eligible, but must submit a new application and revised application materials

Is there an age limit to apply to this program?

There is no age limit to apply to the program as long as the applicant is eligible.

How much are Fellows paid?

Fellows receive a taxable stipend of \$30,000 for the nine-month fellowship. Health insurance is also provided by the City. Some options are free and some have additional costs taken by payroll deductions. Fellows choose the option that works best for them.

Does the City pay the Fellows' relocation and/or housing expenses?

The City does not pay for relocation and housing expenses. Fellows are expected to secure their own housing arrangements.

How many Fellows are selected each year?

25 Fellows are selected each year.

When will I be told if I am invited to interview?

Email notification to finalist occurs by mid to late February when finalists are invited to confirm an interview appointment. Applicants not invited to interview will also be notified by email at that time.

When will I be notified if I have been selected as a Fellow?

Finalists who are selected to become Urban Fellow will receive an official letter through email by the first week of April 2012. A small list of alternates is also notified.

When does the fellowship year start?

The fellowship year starts on Tuesday, September 4, 2012 and ends in the middle of May 10, 2013.