

Frequently Asked Questions for Fellowship Applications

Updated: January 14, 2021

When is the application deadline?

Applications are due on February 7, 2021 at midnight EST.

Can I apply again if I have applied in the past?

Yes, candidates can apply again and state this in the corresponding question that is included in the application form.

Does GPL sponsor visas? Are the Fellowships open to all candidates, regardless of U.S. Work Authorization, or is Lawful Permanent Residence (LPR)/U.S. Citizenship required?

The GPL fellowship position is not limited to Lawful Permanent Residents/U.S. Citizens -- it is also open to international applicants. For candidates who do not have U.S. work permission, we have often been able to hire people with OPT or J1 visas.

Is a graduate degree required to apply?

Graduate-level training in public policy, business, law, economics, social work or related fields, or at least two years of professional work experience is preferred. We have had team members join us without graduate degrees--it is not an absolute prerequisite.

When should I expect to hear back from you?

We will review applications after the deadline (Feb. 7). We typically reach out to candidates for a first-round interview within two weeks of the application deadline.

What is the format of the interviews?

Successful candidates typically complete three rounds of interviews with the GPL. Our interviews include both traditional questions that ask about prior experience and case interview questions that offer opportunities to demonstrate your skills. Our first round interview is typically with one or more current GPL fellows. It focuses on exploring experience and skills relevant to our work. It also includes a brief applied exercise. Our second and third-round interviews involve preparing and discussing an exercise with GPL managers and leaders. These interviews are designed to let applicants demonstrate skills on a set of problems similar to what GPL team members tackle in their work. Candidates progressing into second round interviews without previous experience in case studies may find it helpful to practice completing a few case interviews. Many consulting organizations -- including [The Bridgespan Group](#) and the [Boston Consulting Group](#) -- offer example cases and other resources that can be helpful in preparations.

When is the fellowship start date?

We aim for these Fellows to start in July 2021. If you have different timeline preferences, please note it in your cover letter.

How long does the fellowship last?

GPL Fellows are funded for one year. Depending on project status, there are sometimes opportunities to extend the position.

What is the fellowship compensation?

The annual salary is \$80,000 plus benefits.

What are the possible locations that you're hiring for? Fellows are typically placed on site with the government office or agency that is spearheading a project. Possible locations that we are hiring for include: Austin, Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Concord, Detroit, Hartford, Lansing, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Memphis, Minneapolis/St. Paul, San Francisco/Bay Area/Oakland, Olympia (WA), Providence (RI), San Antonio, Texas (Harris County/Houston/Rural county), Tulsa, and Washington DC. Other sites are possible as well.

Fellows with our What Works Cities team may choose to be based in any major U.S. city. More information on locations will be available during the interview process.

Do you know what the project is in each of these locations?

Our fellowship sites and the exact project/issue area are still being identified; we'll be able to share more about specific project opportunities as you go through the interview process.

Are GPL fellows embedded in governments during the COVID-19 pandemic? Will I still be expected to move and go into the agency office?

Our work is currently remote until at least July 2021 due to COVID-19 concerns. As we learn more, we will revisit a timeline for an in-person start in the respective jurisdiction. Fellows will have 30 days' notice before they are expected to work with the government in person.

Can I pitch a project/government for GPL to fund me to go do?

No. GPL picks governments and projects that best advance our research priorities.

Are there summer fellowships/internships available at the GPL?

We are not recruiting summer interns for our projects this year. We encourage you to apply for the full-time fellowships after graduation.