

1. What is the Community Engagement Fellowship?

Community Engagement Fellowships are one-year fellowships for City College undergraduates who design and carry out projects that address community needs in sustainable ways. Fellows implement these projects by engaging with partnering organizations, teams of students they recruit to work with, people they serve, and the broader City College community. Fellows receive \$5000 in scholarship support and attend non-credit-bearing seminars every other week for project development and management.

2. Who can apply and what are qualities you look for in potential fellows?

Community Engagement Fellowships are for CCNY undergraduates of any discipline or major. The fellowship is open to all residency/citizenship statuses and has no GPA requirement.

While there is no set of characteristics that makes a Community Engagement Fellow, we look for students who demonstrate the following:

- **Leadership:** Fellows advocate for positive change through ongoing work with the CCNY campus, community organizations, and community leaders
- **Commitment to the Public Good:** Fellows, as they address community issues, value awareness of community concerns and an understanding of root issues
- **Flexibility:** Fellows take on projects and work with teams that will evolve and change through unexpected challenges, new directions, and shifting goals.

3. I do not have a background in entrepreneurship or policy. Will I be at a disadvantage in the program?

The Community Engagement Fellowship is specifically designed for students in all majors; the program is designed to provide the tools and knowledge to support you in your project. Instead of a particular background, we ask you to come with an idea, a desire to make that idea happen, and the understanding that ideas transform through teams.

4. What is the application process?

Community Engagement applicants apply through submitting a project proposal. The project proposal differs with traditional essays as it asks applicants to describe and plan out a project to address a community issue. In the proposal, you will answer a series of questions, including what is your issue, who are you trying to serve, project goals and tentative timeline, and what where do you want this project to look like in the next 5 years.

5. How much time should I plan to devote to the fellowship program?

Fellows typically spend approximately 8-10 hours a week engaging in activities related to their fellowship, which includes building a team, liaising with community partners, holding office hours (2 hours a week), and attending seminars every other week. However, the time commitment shifts depending on whether fellows are recruiting students, planning events, and creating workshops. Community Engagement Fellows also attend a three-day orientation at the end of August to prepare for the start of the program.

6. What are some of the topics during seminar?

Community Engagement Fellowship seminars cover a broad range of subjects to help in program and project development. Topics include volunteer recruitment, goal setting, leadership, team management, and sustainability.

7. Can I receive academic credit for my participation?

While the Community Engagement Fellowships provide structural support, space for office hours, seminars, and professional development, the fellowship seminars do not provide academic credit.

8. I'll be transferring to CCNY next year as a junior. May I apply to the program?

Yes. Transfer students are encouraged to apply.

9. Can I apply to multiple Powell Fellowships at the same time?

We strongly encourage you to look carefully at the program requirements of each, and choose the program that best fits your interests. You will not be selected for more than one program. If you have any specific questions or would like to discuss which fellowship is the best fit, please visit our Fellowships Office Hours on Tuesdays from 12:30PM-2:00PM or Thursdays from 4:00-5:30PM in Shepard Hall, room 550.

10. If I become a Community Engagement Fellow, can I also take part in another scholarship program?

While you may apply to any scholarship program that CCNY offers, if you receive offers to join more than one program, you must choose the one that best fits your goals and needs. In the past, students who participated in more than one such program typically found themselves overcommitted. Additionally, limiting students to one scholarship program enables more CCNY students to take advantage of scholarship opportunities at CCNY.

11. Can I attend the fellowship seminars if I am not in the program?

Unfortunately, no. However, the Office of Student Success regularly hosts public events. To find out information about these events, please join our mailing list.

12. Where are you located?

The Office is located on the fifth floor of Shepard Hall, in room 550.

13. Whom should I contact for further information about the Community Engagement Fellowship?

Please contact Katherine Cho, Program Manager, via email (kcho@ccny.cuny.edu), phone (212.650.8491), or in person (by visiting us on at Shepard Hall room 550). Interested students are highly encouraged to attend an information session.

14. Whom should I contact for further information about the Colin Powell Fellowships in general?

Please contact Ellen Murray, Program Director of Scholarships, via email (emurray@ccny.cuny.edu), phone (212.650.7344), or in person (by visiting us on at Shepard Hall room 550). You can also stop by during our Fellowships Office Hours on Tuesdays from 12:30PM-2:00PM or Thursdays from 4:00-5:30PM in Shepard Hall, room 550. Interested students are highly encouraged to attend an information session.