Congressional Fellowships on Women and Public Policy

Want to master public policymaking on Capitol Hill?
Apply NOW for January-July 2018

Why a Women’s Public Policy Fellowship? The Fellowships are designed to train potential leaders in public policy formation to examine issues from the perspective, experiences, and needs of women. Administered by the Women’s Congressional Policy Institute (WCPI), formerly Women’s Policy, Inc., a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization located in Washington, D.C., this program is unique – the only graduate level fellowship program on Capitol Hill directly by, for, and about women.

What does a Fellow do? Fellows work 40 hours each week in a congressional office as a legislative aide on policy issues affecting women. Fellows meet weekly for issue seminars directed by the WCPI staff. Orientation for the Class of 2018 will begin in January 2018; office placement starts at the end of that month. The program runs until the end of July 2018.

Eligibility: Students who are currently enrolled in a graduate program at an accredited institution in the U.S. or who have completed such a program within the past 18 months are eligible. WCPI strongly recommends that applicants complete at least nine hours of graduate coursework before applying and display serious interest in research and policymaking relevant to women’s issues.

Selection Criteria: Fellows are selected on the basis of academic competence as well as demonstrated interest in the public policy process. They must be articulate and adaptable and have strong writing skills. Fellows may come from virtually any field. WCPI promotes equal opportunity in its fellowship program and welcomes qualified applicants of any age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, experience, and academic field.

Award: Fellows will receive a stipend of approximately $3,400 gross per month for seven months (January-July). An additional sum of $1,000 is provided for the purchase of health insurance. Fellows are responsible for transportation to and from Washington, and for finding their own living arrangements.

The number of fellowships in 2018 will be dependent on funding. The four 2017 fellowships were made possible by grants from Amgen, PepsiCo, The Kahn Education Foundation, and The Newcomb College Institute of Tulane University.

To Apply: Materials may be downloaded from WCPI’s website or obtained by mail from the Congressional Fellowship Program 2018, Women’s Congressional Policy Institute, 409 12th Street, SW, Suite 702, Washington, DC 20024. Candidates may submit applications by mail or e-mail. No faxed applications will be accepted.

The application and supporting materials must be received at WCPI no later than Thursday, June 1, 2017.

Class of 2017 Fellows

Nikki Semenza, Dena Lagomarsino, Shilesha Bamberg, and Nina Serrianne are mastering public policymaking on Capitol Hill.