



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

September 2008

Franklin Fellows Program

"An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest." Benjamin Franklin

The Department of State is the President's primary advisor on the conduct of international relations. The Department recommends and implements U.S. foreign policy and manages human and material resources to engage with over 162 countries and several international organizations. Department professionals are dedicated to addressing critical national security challenges across the globe: conflict resolution, nuclear nonproliferation, human rights, promoting democracy and economic stability, protecting the environment, conducting trade, assisting U.S. business abroad, providing disaster and humanitarian assistance and confronting the global scourges of AIDS, terrorism, human trafficking and child labor. The Department also protects U.S. citizens abroad, and adjudicates visas for visitors and new residents. The Department works with a broad spectrum of other government agencies, Congress, non-profit and private sector organizations and representatives of foreign governments.

Since the end of the Cold War, the range and complexity of issues facing the international community has grown exponentially; the Department relies now on over 40 bureaus and offices to manage all aspects of bilateral and multilateral diplomacy. In order to strengthen its ability to deal with this plethora of issues and to draw on expertise of individuals working in disciplines related to them, the Department of State has launched the "**Franklin Fellows Program.**" This effort will provide unique opportunities for experienced professionals with a minimum of five years of relevant experience to spend a sabbatical year or detail as Fellows at the Department of State. The goal of the program is for Fellows, serving as consultants, to provide valuable and pertinent advice, views, opinions, alternatives or recommendations on foreign policy issues facing the nation.

Who Is Eligible? The Franklin Fellows Program is open to mid/upper-level professionals from both private-sector and non-profit entities (including NGOs, academia, foundations, associations and others). Such professionals must be U.S. citizens and be able to obtain a security clearance. The clearance will be processed prior to the start of the Fellowship. The Department will make the final selection and placement of Fellows but will take into account suggestions from the nominating/funding entity.

The Department is seeking professionals with a broad range of backgrounds and experiences. There is no fixed percentage of nominees from any particular sector, but the Department will look for a good mix of candidates from both private and non-profit sectors. The Fellows will contribute their knowledge and expertise to the strengthening of policy formulation and programs within the Department of State. Further, Fellows may work with other government entities, such as the Congress, White House, the Departments of Defense, Commerce, Homeland Security and other Executive Branch agencies, depending on their duties. At the same time, Fellows will

enhance their own knowledge of government and global issues. Fellows will gain valuable professional experience and enrich their nominating organizations and communities upon their return.

Program Details: Fellows will be matched with State Department bureaus and offices that can utilize their expertise. The expected duration of the Fellowship will be approximately one year, with a possible one-year extension. Fellows must recuse themselves from matters that might directly and predictably affect the financial interests of their employers and must comply with other federal ethics regulations. Applicants must submit a financial disclosure form and receive an ethics clearance, prior to serving.

Information for Organizations Interested in Funding/Nominating Fellows: Approved, non-federal entities may participate in the Franklin Fellows Program as follows:

- First, such approved entities may continue the salaries and benefits of their nominees who are selected. Remuneration for Fellows who are being funded directly by their nominating organizations shall remain the sole jurisdiction of the Fellow and the home organization. These Fellows will serve in the Department as "unpaid consultants."
- Second, approved, non-federal entities may donate funds as a gift to the Department of State for support of otherwise-unfunded Fellows.
- Third, approved, non-federal entities may nominate Fellows whom they fund partially or not at all. Because appropriated funds are not available to support the salaries and benefits of Franklin Fellows, the Department of State would rely on donations to support unfunded or partially funded fellows.

For Fellows coming from outside of the Washington, DC area (or the New York City area, if serving at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations), some relocation and lodging costs may be reimbursed from donated funds, if such funds are available. The Department of State will cover costs associated with the security investigation and clearance, as well as transportation and per diem necessary for official travel, once the Fellow begins service.

Contacts/Website: Additional information about the Franklin Fellows Program can be found at <http://careers.state.gov/FF>. Points of contact at the Department of State are:

1. Inquiries from the private sector and foundations: William P. Pope, Senior Advisor for Fellows, can be reached at 202-261-8865 and at popewp@state.gov.
2. Inquiries from academia and non-governmental organizations: H. Carl Gettinger, Advisor for Fellows, can be reached at 202-261-8876 and GettingerHC2@state.gov.