Selected Professions Fellowships

Applications for Selected Professions Fellowships are open August 1–December 1. Learn more
For questions or technical support, please email aauw@applyists.com.

Selected Professions Fellowships are awarded to women who intend to pursue a full-time course of study at accredited U.S. institutions during the fellowship year in one of the designated degree programs where women’s participation traditionally has been low (see list below). Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

Selected Professions Fellowships are awarded for the following master’s programs:

- Architecture
- Computer/information sciences
- Engineering
- Mathematics/statistics
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Fellowships in the following degree programs are restricted to women of color, who have been underrepresented in these fields:

- Master’s in business administration — applicants may apply for second year of study only
- Law — applicants may apply for third year of study only
- Doctorate in medicine — applicants may apply for third or fourth year of study only

Award Amount

$5,000–18,000

Time Line

December 1, 2019, by 11:59 p.m. Central Time
Deadline for online submission of application and supporting documents

April 15, 2020
Notification of decisions emailed to all applicants. AAUW is not able to honor requests for earlier notification.
July 1, 2020–June 30, 2021
Fellowship year

When a deadline or notification date falls on a weekend, the date will be observed on the following business day.

Eligibility

AAUW awards Selected Professions Fellowships to women who are citizens or permanent residents of the United States who have achieved high standards of academic excellence and show promise of distinction in their respective fields. Applicants must be full-time students at an accredited U.S. institution during the fellowship year, and should be pursuing a course of study in the United States over the full academic year. Priority is given to women who do not already hold a master’s or first professional degree.

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Selected Professions Fellowships are not open to previous recipients of any AAUW national fellowship or grant (not including branch or local awards or Community Action Grants).

Women in two categories are eligible to apply: the Science and Technology Group and the Focus Professions Group.

Science and Technology Group Fellowships
The following disciplines and master’s level degrees are eligible for fellowship funding in any year of study:

- Architecture (M.Arch.)
- Computer/information science (MS)
- Engineering (ME, MS)
  - Mathematics/statistics (MS)

Focus Professions Group Fellowships
Open only to women from ethnic minority groups historically underrepresented in certain fields within the United States: Black/African American, Mexican American, Puerto Rican and other Hispanic, Native American/Alaska Native, and Asian American/Pacific Islander.

The designated fields eligible for fellowship funding are

- Business administration (MBA) — applicants may apply for second year of study only
- Law (JD) — applicants may apply for third year of study only
- Medicine (MD), (DO) — applicants may apply for third or fourth year of study only
Special notice: Applications submitted that do not adhere to the specified fields of study for funding as outlined above will be disqualified.

Non-eligible Factors

Joint degree programs: Fellowships only support full-time coursework in the above designated fields. An individual enrolled in a joint-degree program may apply for support only if she plans to pursue full-time coursework during the entire fellowship year in one of the approved designated fields. Fellowship funds may not be used to support coursework in other fields, even if part of a joint-degree program.

Distance learning: Fellowships support traditional, classroom-based courses of study at colleges or universities. This fellowship program does not provide funding for distance-learning programs or for degrees heavily dependent on distance-learning components.

Ph.D. coursework or dissertations: Fellowships do not support Ph.D. coursework or dissertations. Applicants should be enrolled in master’s level degree programs only. Visit the AAUW website for information about doctoral funding through American Fellowships or International Fellowships.