



APAICS CONGRESSIONAL FELLOWSHIP

WHO WE ARE

The Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS) is a **national nonpartisan, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to promoting Asian American & Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (AA & NH/PI) participation and representation at all levels of the political process.** APAICS programs focus on developing leadership, building public policy knowledge, and filling the political pipeline for Asian Pacific Americans to pursue public office at the local, state, and federal levels.

Founded in 1994 alongside the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC) by former Secretary Norman Y. Mineta and former Delegate Robert Underwood, APAICS continues to support CAPAC by serving as a resource and promoting a politically active and civically engaged AA & NH/PI community. **APAICS serves as the educational arm of CAPAC, providing direct engagement with CAPAC members and their offices.**

CONGRESSIONAL FELLOWSHIP

The APAICS Congressional Fellowship is a **12-month program** that provides exceptional graduates and young professionals the opportunity to work extensively on policy issues as full-time staff members in a congressional office or committee.

- **Program Dates:** The Fellowship typically begins the last week of August, and runs through the end of August of the following year.
- **Eligibility:** Fellows must hold at least a Bachelor's degree or have at least five years of public service experience prior to the start of the fellowship.

For more information, please email [**programs@apaics.org**](mailto:programs@apaics.org).



APAICS

Asian Pacific American
Institute for Congressional Studies

HOST OFFICE FAQ

What is the process to become a host office?

A survey will be sent in the first quarter of the year to CAPAC member offices to assess interest in hosting a Fellow. Once finalists are selected, their applications are shared with offices that indicate interest. These offices are then invited to interview candidates and extend placement offers.

Priority is given to CAPAC member offices; however, offices that would like to be considered that are not members of CAPAC may email programs@apaics.org to express their interest.



What is the selection process and placement timeline?

The APAICS Congressional Fellowship program is highly competitive and follows a three-round selection process. Applications are reviewed and scored in January by a selection committee composed of APAICS Fellowship alumni, supporters, and Board of Directors. Top candidates are then invited to participate in second round interviews in February, where they are evaluated on leadership potential, professionalism, and commitment to public service. By early spring, finalists are selected and their application materials are shared with interested congressional offices for interviews and potential placement.

What is required of the host office?

Host offices are expected to provide a professional and supportive environment for Fellows, including assigning a supervisor at the Legislative Assistant level or higher, offering substantive policy work, and supporting the Fellow's integration into the team. A more detailed description of these responsibilities will be provided in the Host Office Agreement & Supervisor Manual, which offices will receive and be required to sign once a Fellow is placed.



Is there a cost or financial commitment required from the host office?

There is no financial commitment required from the host office. Fellows receive a monthly educational stipend. The program is funded by partners who support APAICS' various programs. All we ask of a host office is to provide the Fellow with a meaningful learning opportunity and substantive work.

Please note, individual Fellows may be connected to a program sponsor. While sponsors do not have any supervisory role, they may engage with the Fellow occasionally in a mentorship capacity.

Do your fellows specialize in specific issue areas?

Fellows indicate their policy interests and areas of focus in their application. While we do our best to ensure each cohort is made up of Fellows that have a variety of policy interests and backgrounds, we can't guarantee an exact fit. If a host office is seeking a Fellow with a particular policy interest, we're happy to identify the Fellows who have expressed strong interest or relevant experience in that area.

Who can I contact for questions or support about the program?

For any questions or support related to the fellowship program, please email programs@apaics.org. This inbox is monitored by our team and ensures your inquiry is directed to the appropriate staff member.

