



GUIDELINES FOR APPLYING TO THE ZHI-XING CHINA EISENHOWER FELLOWSHIP

A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN EISENHOWER FELLOWSHIPS AND THE CHINA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION FOR INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

Background

Each year, the Zhi-Xing China Eisenhower Fellowship seeks approximately 10 diverse, dynamic doers to award a four-week fellowship focused exclusively on China. This program was launched in 2015 after many years of partnership between EF and the China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE). Starting in Beijing and ending in Shanghai, Fellows experience two and a half weeks of individualized programming in cities and towns across China. The Zhi-Xing Fellows are selected as a cohort and must commit to the complete fellowship travel dates. For 2019, the fellowship dates are June 1-30, 2019.

The nationwide application process for this Fellowship is highly competitive. We seek ambitious, disciplined rising leaders with the vision to make the world a better place as well as the ability to create and implement a concrete plan to make that vision a reality post-fellowship. Fellows represent all professional sectors – private, public and nonprofit – and hail from any number of careers, from journalism to the military to higher education to private corporations to the arts and beyond. What all Fellows share, regardless of their professional background or nationality, is a desire to make meaningful positive change in the world in collaboration with peers across sectors or borders. Successful candidates are eager to leverage the global network of Eisenhower Fellowships and engage, over their lifetime as Eisenhower Fellows, in constructive projects and initiatives designed to enhance the values of Eisenhower Fellowships: peace, prosperity and justice.

The Zhi-Xing China Eisenhower Fellowship is aimed at mid-career leaders, U.S. citizens or permanent residents, who have a demonstrated track record of accomplishment as well as the potential to go further and beyond their chosen field. Typically, Fellows range between 32 and 45 years of age at the time of fellowship. This age range has proven to be most amenable to the fellowship experience, with Fellows having attained the maturity to take advantage of the program and represent Eisenhower Fellowships abroad, as well as draw upon the experience to catapult them forward as thought leaders and influencers for years to come. Applications received from candidates outside of this age range will be considered, but their likelihood of selection is less.

Eisenhower Fellowships only accepts individual applications. EF does not support dissertation research or research while a candidate is still in school. Fellowships cannot be used to solicit funds or function as an extended business trip.

The online application is available [here](#). A Word copy for use offline is available [here](#).

Tips for Completing the Application

Please make sure to answer all questions in the online application thoroughly. Be concise, focusing on the most important and relevant information required to answer the question, as well as any basic context about the issue needed by the reader to understand it completely.

Make sure to review all answers for grammar and spelling, as any mistakes will lessen the impact, as well as consideration, of your application. It is suggested that you compose all answers offline, and cut and paste them into the online version once you are ready to submit. Suggested word counts are also below.

SECTION 2: Description of organization / your role and influence

Word Count: 250 words

- When describing your organization and your role, please try and use your own words rather than copy existing language from a website or other standard text.
- When describing your role, please consider how your current job position will allow you to take advantage of the fellowship and achieve the impact you propose through the project or initiative. From this vantage point, what resources do you have to support your vision and take your impact and leadership to the next level – along with the network of Eisenhower Fellowships?

SECTION 5: Description of leadership / personal initiative

Word Count: 500 words

- Please provide some insight into yourself through a short narrative of demonstrated achievement, either personal or professional, that speaks to the quality of your leadership, influence and ability to get things done. Explain why it mattered and what positive difference it made in your organization, business and/or community.

SECTION 6: Interest in China

Word Count: 500 words

- Please provide your reasons for wanting to visit China and its relevance to your professional interests and fellowship project. Describe any involvement in cross-border collaborations, or aspirations to be involved in such initiatives, especially between the U.S. and China.

SECTION 7: Proposed project or initiative

Word count: 500 words

- We prefer proposals that are focused on action and impact, and less on sharing accumulated knowledge. Proposals to write a book, blog or manual on best practices are generally not well-received. Proposals that identify a key problem that is clearly defined plus an idea that could potentially alleviate it and improve the quality of life for a specific group of people are preferred – knowledge translated into action. We recognize that this is a proposal and a not a blueprint for what might actually be implemented. We expect that your ideas might change over the course of the fellowship and beyond.
- What we expect to see in this portion of the application is your dedication and passion to an issue and a program or policy that you will design and lead to reduce the negative impact on people and their lives. Examples of past projects include instituting policies and practices to change the culture of a criminal justice agency; creating an incubator/accelerator for social enterprise; developing programs (advocacy and education) to implement a culture of

sustainable finance in the banking industry; expanding a successful social services nonprofit to include a for-profit enterprise and a leadership academy; creating a private hospital dedicated to maternal health.

SECTION 8: Proposed fellowship design

Recommendation: a minimum of 8 proposals

- We are interested to see how you translate your objectives and vision of fellowship and your fellowship project into concrete meetings and exchanges with people and organizations. This is not meant to be a definite or comprehensive list of people and/or organizations you seek to connect with on fellowship.
- This section is essential in helping Eisenhower Fellowships understand exactly what you want to do and achieve on fellowship and how you think this might best be achieved, as well as what networks you seek to access and/or leverage if you are selected as a Fellow. Also in such case, program staff will work with you to further flesh out this information, which will be a key jumping-off point for your fellowship program.
- If you do not know specific individuals or organizations in the country you intend to visit, due to language and other barriers, please be as specific as possible in describing the profile or position of the person or the role of the organization.