

# **Eisenhower Global Scholars Program Abstract**

## **An Elite Postgraduate International Experience**

For 65 years since its founding, Eisenhower Fellowships has evolved to become one of the world's premier international leadership programs, exposing more than 2,400 international leaders from 115 countries to the United States and some nearly 330 American leaders to the world beyond U.S. shores.

Through individualized fellowships that feature thoughtful interactions with experts in their fields, international and American midcareer leaders challenge themselves to grow professionally, expand their horizons and build bridges across national borders and cultures to generate a positive impact on their societies.

Now Eisenhower Fellowships introduces a dynamic new dimension to its traditional programs for midcareer leaders, offering American university graduates an elite postgraduate opportunity for academic study abroad, enriched by structured engagement with the exceptional leaders of EF's influential global network of Fellows.

The Eisenhower Global Scholars Program will in its first phase send four outstanding American university graduates abroad each year to prestigious universities in Europe for intensive study and hands-on work experience in two major areas: 1) public policy with a focus on public service and effective governance and 2) international relations with a focus on global business, innovation and entrepreneurship.

This initiative seeks to leverage the unique competitive advantages of Eisenhower Fellowships that will differentiate it from the myriad postgraduate opportunities for Americans to study overseas. In particular, EF offers its Eisenhower Global Scholars deep engagement with its unrivaled global network of some 1,600 leaders from government, business, civil society, education, science, health care, the arts and journalism.

## **Increasing Young American Leaders' Exposure to the World**

Strategically, the Eisenhower Global Scholars Program advances a primary objective of Eisenhower Fellowships to increase the number of American leaders exposed to the rest of the world. Through its USA Program, Eisenhower Fellowships has accomplished this for more than two decades by sending outstanding American leaders from all fields aged 32-45 overseas to one or two nations each year on four- and five-week fellowships.

The Eisenhower Global Scholars Program will enhance EF's existing USA Program by introducing a younger generation of Americans to lands beyond U.S. shores for deep immersion into the study of enlightened relations between nations, responsible public service and ethical business practices. In the process, this initiative aims to make Eisenhower Fellowships a highly competitive, highly coveted, world-class experience for

recent university graduates that dramatically elevates the public profile of EF in the United States and introduces the organization to new potential Fellows and supporters.

This exciting new program is an outgrowth of Eisenhower Fellowships' Youth Leaders Network, an initiative launched in 2017 to identify outstanding youth leaders ages 18-25 in 24 countries and pair them with Eisenhower Fellows overseas who mentor the Youth Leaders and help them develop projects of impact.

Given the historical legacy of EF's namesake, President Dwight D. Eisenhower, for his central role in helping lead the liberation of Europe from Axis occupation as Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in Europe during World War II, it is fitting that Eisenhower Fellowships launch the initial phase of its Eisenhower Global Scholars Program at two prestigious universities in Western Europe, the University of Oxford and IE University. The continent shares with the United States core values of democracy, free speech and free markets and is an attractive destination for American college graduates.

### **Lifelong Connection to the Eisenhower Fellowships Global Network**

One of the unique hallmarks of the Eisenhower experience is the lifelong connection to a network of like-minded leaders from 115 countries in which the organization has operated since its founding. This critical feature and benefit of EF's programs will be mirrored with the Eisenhower Global Scholars program. The Eisenhower Global Scholars will have access to the entire EF global network through the EF network office in Philadelphia to help facilitate connections with our 1600 active Eisenhower Fellows. To further nurture ties with the broader network, the Scholars will be invited to Eisenhower Fellowships' Annual Meeting Day events in Philadelphia each year in May and one regional or global EF conference either prior to or after their time overseas.

On a parallel track, Eisenhower Fellowships will continue to host its international Youth Leaders' Network that promotes interaction between young leaders ages 18-25 and our Fellows around the world. American participants in the Eisenhower Global Scholars Program will meet face-to-face with members of the international Youth Leaders Network at EF events, forging global ties between these accomplished U.S. scholars and their younger counterparts around the world.

After their fellowship overseas, Eisenhower Global Scholars will be required to present their key findings, insights and outcomes in a public event in one of the nine cities where Eisenhower Fellowships has a U.S. hub or concentration of Fellows. This will provide the young scholars with exposure to accomplished USA Eisenhower Fellows, to civic leaders in their communities and to individuals interested in learning more about Eisenhower Fellowships. EF will also connect each Eisenhower Scholar with an Eisenhower Fellow in the United States who will provide additional career advice for the first year of their post-travel period.

Like Eisenhower Fellows around the world, Eisenhower Global Scholars will be expected to commit to a lifelong engagement with the organization, helping keep alive the legacy of Dwight D. Eisenhower for future generations.

## **Selection Criteria**

Eisenhower Global Scholars will be academically high-performing recent college graduates who are admitted by Oxford and IE and then selected by EF using criteria adapted from our traditional USA Fellowship program for outstanding ascendant leaders. We are looking for diverse, dynamic doers who have a demonstrated commitment to public service or fostering entrepreneurship, change agents interested in lifelong engagement with an influential network of global leaders. Preferred age range is from 20 to 30.

Eisenhower Fellowships will select four recent college graduates strategically drawn from universities in EF's existing USA Hubs and mini-hubs in Philadelphia, Boston, North Carolina, Chicago, St. Louis, Los Angeles, the Bay Area, Miami and Austin, Texas. These universities include Temple University, University of Pennsylvania, Duke University, University of Chicago, Northwestern University, Harvard University, Washington University, Stanford University, University of Southern California, the University of California-Los Angeles, Florida International University, the University of Miami, Florida International University, the University of Texas-Austin and Texas A & M University.

Drawn from EF's existing concentrations of American Fellows, the Eisenhower Global Scholars will have the opportunity to be mentored by the local Fellows in their region prior to departing on their overseas journey. Eisenhower Fellows from past years will help EF vet candidates.

Applicants should have an exceptional academic record with an impressive upward trajectory that ranks them near the top of their peers. In addition to academic ability and achievement, applicants must demonstrate a high level of commitment to public service, as evidenced by their chosen career path in the public, private or non-profit fields and/or an outstanding record of community service.

Applicants must have graduated from a four-year American university with a 3.7 Grade Point Average (out of 4.0), have a track record of leadership and achievement and a commitment to tackling real world challenges through a concrete project idea. After gaining admission to the University of Oxford and IE University, candidates will be accepted by EF in the first quarter of the calendar year in which they will travel overseas.

## **Program Structure and Design**

Each Eisenhower Global Scholar will spend a full academic year of postgraduate study leading to a Master's degree at one of two distinguished European universities. The Global Scholars will focus on two tracks: public policy with a focus on public service and effective governance or international relations with a focus on global business, innovation and entrepreneurship.

For the public policy track, Eisenhower Global Scholars will undertake the Master of Public Policy at the [Blavatnik School of Government at the University of Oxford](#). For the international relations track, they will undertake the Master in International Relations at the [School of Global and Public Affairs at IE University](#) in Madrid. These European universities offer one-year master's degrees with courses in English in these fields.

Global Scholars must apply directly to and be offered a place at the Blavatnik School or IE University via their standard admissions processes which are wholly and separately administered by those institutions.

Prior to beginning their academic studies abroad, Global Scholars will attend an Opening Seminar in Philadelphia. This four-day seminar will provide the Eisenhower Global Scholars with an orientation on what to expect from, and how to prepare for, their academic experience.

The seminar will be designed to accelerate bonds between the Global Scholars in the cohort. Sessions will be structured so that the Eisenhower Global Scholars focus on developing their projects with the others in their track. Eisenhower Global Scholars will be paired with mentors who will also provide them with guidance and support.

The Eisenhower Global Scholars will depart for the start of their academic studies in August or September 2020, depending on the schedule of the university they choose, and will be housed at one of the two partner universities in Europe mentioned above.

The collaboration within the cohort is a hallmark characteristic of an Eisenhower Fellowship. The full cohort of four Eisenhower Global Scholars will meet in Europe at least two times during the academic year to share learnings with each other and participate in further leadership development and team building with an Eisenhower Fellow.

During their academic year of study, or after the school year is completed, the Global Scholars will travel for two weeks to a few cities in Europe to meet with Eisenhower Fellows.

After they return home to the United States, EF will organize a Closing Seminar so the Global Scholars can report on their findings and be inducted into the EF Global Network. Then the Global Scholars will be offered optional summer internships in the U.S. sponsored by Eisenhower Fellows or Trustees.

These Eisenhower Global Scholars will have a designated EF staff advisor who will check in with them on a regular basis to ensure the internship and meetings are progressing, to help coordinate the cohort meetings and to serve as general support to the Scholars while living overseas.

One or two months after their return home, the Eisenhower Global Scholars will reconvene in the United States to report on findings and present a final plan on implementing their projects.

Final projects can be individual or done in partnership with other Global Scholars in the cohort. Eisenhower Global Scholars will be welcomed into an active network of more than 1600 leaders across the globe. EF will track the outcomes after one, three and five years as implemented in EF's current programs and as outlined in EF's impact evaluation plan.