Robert Lee Ellis Civic Fellowship Application

Through support from the Carlson Leadership & Public Service Center, the Robert Lee Ellis Civic Fellowship offers support to undergraduate students who are committed to service and community engagement through a four-year University of Washington experience.

Eligibility requirements:

- Financial need as determined by the Financial Aid Office. Most students fill this requirement by filing a FAFSA for the current academic year, but the Carlson Center will also accept applications from students with financial need that are not eligible to file for federal financial aid.

- Committed to connecting public service to your academic study at the University of Washington.

- Willing to make a four-year commitment as outlined in the expectations below.

Expectations for Ellis Fellows

All Four Years

1. Complete a minimum of 20 hours of service with a community organization each quarter you are enrolled at the UW; often this is done as part of a service-learning course.

2. Integrate service and academic experiences by taking service-learning or community based leadership courses each quarter during your first and second years. (Exact credit hours and courses will vary; you’ll receive advising and support in order to meet this requirement.)

3. Participate in events including the Ellis Mentorship Match, Civic Fellow Quarterly Social, the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, and the Spring Celebration of Service & Leadership (dates and other details announced at the beginning of each academic year).

4. Meet a minimum of twice a year with Carlson Center staff to discuss your progress through fellowship requirements.

Third and Fourth Year

5. Serve as an undergraduate teaching assistant (TA) in one of the community based leadership courses offered by the Center for Experiential Learning and Diversity (usually during your third year).

6. Identify a faculty and community mentor during your third year at the UW; as part of the process of identifying these mentors, you will conduct informational interviews with community and academic representatives in your anticipated career field.

7. During your fourth year as an Ellis Fellow, you will author a personal service-based capstone project with support from Carlson Center staff, community members, and a faculty mentor. Regular capstone project updates and evidence of progress will be expected throughout the fourth year, culminating in a capstone project presentation in the spring that will complete the transition from Ellis Civic Fellow to Ellis Civic Leader.

Financial Support

Ellis Fellows receive $2,000 per year during their first and second year at the university, and $4000 per year during their third and fourth years at the university. We work individually with students to determine the best disbursal pattern.
Application Instructions
Applications for the Ellis Civic Fellowship include basic information about the applicant, a list of relevant experiences, and three short essay answers --- see below for details and essay prompts.

Applications are due by 11:59pm on Friday, September 19th.
Submit all information as one document, saved with your last name as the file name. Materials should be sent as an attachment, with “Ellis Fellowship Application” as the email subject to engage@uw.edu.

Interviews will take place on Friday, October 10th from 4:00pm - 6:00pm.
All applicants should hold the interview time in their calendars. There is only one interview time and we are unable to make accommodations for schedule conflicts.
Applicants will receive notification of whether they have been selected for an interview by noon on Friday, October 3rd.

Information to Include in Your Application

Name (First, Last)     Student #
Phone Number     Email Address
Anticipated area of study     Anticipated graduation year

Please list any significant service, volunteer, leadership, paid work roles, honors or awards, including the dates that the role was held or award was received.

For example: *Stewardship Club Vice President (September 2013-June 2014): As Stewardship Club Vice President, I scheduled club meetings, occasionally filled in for the president as meeting facilitator, helped to organize an environmental sustainability fair, coordinated two guest speakers, and worked with the club treasurer to plan the club budget and place food orders.

Please list any other scholarships or fellowships you will be receiving as a UW student.
(ie. Gates Millenium Scholarship, Achiever Scholarship, Governors’ Scholarship, CostCo Scholarship, etc.)

Essay Responses

*The Fellowship selection committee will pay particular attention to these personal statements.*

1) What are you most passionate about and why? (Consider referencing any social issues or personal values that inspire you).
*Please keep your response to less than 400 words.

2) Describe some aspect of your background that best exemplifies your commitment to public service. *Please keep your response to less than 400 words.

3) Briefly describe your long- and short-term goals. *Please keep your response to less than 300 words.

If there are any special considerations or additional information you feel necessary to your application, please include it at the end of your application document (separate from your essay answers).

In addition, please include the following statements in your application:

1) I acknowledge that I will be able to make a four-year commitment to serving in the community and maintaining involvement in the Ellis Civic Fellows community-based learning and leadership development curriculum.

2) I acknowledge that I will be able to commit to the required courses. For the 2014-2015 academic year, the one required course is GEN ST 344: Introduction to Service and Community (3 credits); this course is offered during Winter Quarter (tentatively scheduled for Thursdays from 3:30-6:20pm).

*If you anticipate that participating in this course will conflict with other commitments, please include a note in your application – this does not disqualify you from applying.*

Course descriptions and additional information regarding the Ellis Fellowships is available on the Carlson Center website: www.uw.edu/carlson/ellis-civic-fellowship/

Please email engage@uw.edu with any questions.