



# BUSH FOUNDATION

## **2020 Bush Fellowship Application Information Packet**

We're here to help. Please contact the Leadership Programs Team at 651-379-2249 or [Fellowships@BushFoundation.org](mailto:Fellowships@BushFoundation.org).

Application Open September 24-October 24, 2019 (Closes at noon Central)

*This information packet covers the topics listed below. To apply or find additional information, please visit <http://bfdn.org/BFP>.*

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## Eligibility and Selection Criteria

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Eligibility Questions—You will be asked the following 5 questions to determine if you are eligible to apply:

1. Are you a resident of Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota or one of the 23 Native Nations that share the same geography?
2. Have you lived in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota or one of the 23 Native Nations that share the same geography for at least one year immediately prior to October 24, 2019?
3. Will your primary residence remain in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota or one of the 23 Native Nations that share the same geography throughout the application process and your Fellowship?
4. Will you be at least 24 years old on October 24, 2019?
5. Have you previously received a Bush Fellowship, Bush Artist Fellowship, Bush Leadership Fellowship, Bush Medical Fellowship or Enduring Vision Award?

Selection Criteria—The Fellowship selection criteria is based on your track record, plan and potential:

### Your Track Record

- Record of success – You make the most of opportunities regardless of where you are in your career. You continuously find ways to have more impact inside your job and/or outside your job. You are persistent and resilient in the face of difficulty.
- Outstanding character – You are admired and respected by others. You demonstrate integrity and generosity of spirit.
- Active Learner – You recognize your own strengths and weaknesses. You seek and incorporate feedback. You have an inquiring mind, actively searching out new ideas and new experiences to broaden your perspective and increase your effectiveness

### Your Plan

- You clearly articulate how the Fellowship will be transformative to changing or accelerating your trajectory in your career and life.
- You clearly articulate how you will be a stronger more effective leader after the Fellowship than you are today.

### Your Potential

- You demonstrate the vision and the drive to be extraordinary in your leadership and the capacity to make a far greater impact in your community, affecting larger scale changes than you are making now. You are committed to working to benefit people and communities in MN, ND, SD and the 23 Native nations that share the geography.

## Privacy of Application Materials

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Application materials submitted for the selection of Bush Fellows will be used by a variety of people in the selection process. The Foundation will maintain a file for each applicant. For those selected as Fellows, the Foundation will maintain electronic and hard copies of correspondence and other materials generated during the Fellowship period.

Once the Fellowship is complete, Fellows' hard-copy files will be stored by the Minnesota Historical Society. Those files will be made available to the general public 50 years after their initial storage date.

## The Application System

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**The deadline for Bush Fellowship applications is Thursday, October 24, 2019 at noon Central.** We use an online application system. Our online application system will automatically close at noon and we will not accept applications after that time. We understand applying through the online application system may present a barrier to some applicants, and we will make reasonable efforts to accommodate particular needs on a case-by-case basis. Please contact us as soon as possible, but no later than one week before the application deadline, to discuss your specific circumstances. We cannot make accommodations after the application deadline.

## Application Questions

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The 2020 Bush Fellowship application questions are provided below as a reference. The questions below are what you can expect to see in the online application.

New user questions:

- My first name
- My last name
- Email

Applicant Information—Your responses to the following questions are not used for selection, but are useful in helping us understand who is applying for the Fellowship program.

What is your date of birth?

What gender do you identify with?

- Female
- Male
- Other
- Transgender
- I prefer not to answer

Which racial/ethnic group do you identify with?

- American Indian/Alaska Native
- Asian/Asian American
- Black/African American
- Hispanic or Latino
- Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
- Some other race
- White
- I prefer not to answer

If you selected Black/African American or Asian/Asian American in the question above, please also select one of the following options, if applicable.

- African Immigrant/Refugee
- Southeast Asian

If you are currently enrolled in a tribe(s), please select which tribe(s) from the list below.

- Bois Forte Band of Chippewa
- Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe
- Crow Creek Sioux Tribe
- Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe
- Fond Du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Grand Portage Band of Chippewa
- Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe
- Lower Brule Sioux Tribe
- Lower Sioux Indian Community
- Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe
- Oglala Sioux Tribe
- Prairie Island Indian Community
- Red Lake Chippewa Indians
- Rosebud Sioux Tribe
- Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
- Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Tribe
- Spirit Lake Nation
- Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
- Three Affiliated Tribes
- Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa
- Upper Sioux Community
- White Earth Band of Ojibwe
- Yankton Sioux Tribe
- Other

Select the option that best describes where you currently live.

- Minnesota
- South Dakota
- North Dakota
- Native Nation: Bois Forte Band
- Native Nation: Cheyenne River Sioux
- Native Nation: Crow Creek Sioux Tribe
- Native Nation: Flandreau Santee Sioux
- Native Nation: Fond du Lac Band
- Native Nation: Grand Portage Band
- Native Nation: Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe
- Native Nation: Lower Brule Sioux Tribe
- Native Nation: Lower Sioux
- Native Nation: MHA Nation
- Native Nation: Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe
- Native Nation: Oglala Sioux Tribe
- Native Nation: Other
- Native Nation: Prairie Island
- Native Nation: Red Lake Nation
- Native Nation: Rosebud Sioux Tribe
- Native Nation: Shakopee Mdewakanton
- Native Nation: Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate
- Native Nation: Spirit Lake Nation
- Native Nation: Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
- Native Nation: Turtle Mountain Band
- Native Nation: Upper Sioux Community
- Native Nation: Urban
- Native Nation: White Earth Nation
- Native Nation: Yankton Sioux Tribe

Select the option that best describes your current area of work.

- Academic
- Business
- Nonprofit
- Public

How did you hear about the Fellowship program?

- Bush Fellow
- Email
- Flyer
- Magazine
- Other
- Referral
- Website/Internet search

If referred by a Fellow, Bush Foundation staff or a member in our community, please list their name and email address below.

Narrative Questions:

Your Track Record—We want to understand who you are and the difference you have made through your leadership.

1. What would you like to share about yourself and your leadership journey? (Maximum 1500 characters, approximately 250 Words)
2. Each person's experience is unique. What is important for us to understand about your life and your leadership accomplishments toward community impact? (Maximum 2,400 characters, approximately 400 words)
3. We are looking for candidates who have a strong record of success and are effective at leading change. Please tell us about your leadership accomplishments which have had the most impact in your community. (Maximum 1,500 characters, approximately 250 words)

Your Potential—We want to know that investing in your development through the Bush Fellowship will have a strong, positive impact on your leadership growth, resulting in a positive impact on you and your community. Please share your vision to make your community stronger.

1. What large scale change is needed in your community or region and why do you believe you can help lead this change? (Maximum 3,000 characters, approximately 500 words)
2. How do you want to grow your leadership? What specific leadership skills do you want to develop to increase your ability to make large scale change happen with the community you care about? (Maximum 1,500 characters, approximately 250 words)
3. How will the skills you describe above help you grow your leadership and increase your ability to make large scale change happen for the people and issues you care about? (Maximum 1,800 characters, approximately 300 words)

Resume—Please provide your resume in whatever format is easiest for you. Acceptable file types are: .doc, .docx, .xls, .xlsx and .pdf. For any uploaded document, please include your name in the file name and in the document itself. We will not review or consider any additional attachments other than your resume.

## Quarterfinalist Application Questions

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A preliminary selection committee of Bush Fellow alumni will select roughly 150 Quarterfinalists in early December 2019. If you are selected as one of these Quarterfinalists, you'll be asked to provide answers to the following questions:

**Your Potential**—We want to understand your vision for your community, your leadership and how investing in you at this time will have a positive impact in our region.

1. Why is now the right time for you to pursue the Bush Fellowship? (Maximum 2,400 characters, approximately 400 words)
2. It has been a few months since you submitted your first application and you may have had new or refined ideas since then. Please share any updates to the leadership goals you outlined in your first application. (Maximum 1,500 characters, approximately 250 words)

**Your Plan**—Your leadership plan is a description of how you will use this once-in-a-lifetime Bush Fellowship to transform your leadership and acquire the skills and experiences you need to achieve your vision for community change. We fully expect your Bush Fellowship plan to evolve over time.

1. Are you seeking a degree or are you pursuing a self-designed Fellowship?
  - Academic plan
  - Self-designed learning plan
2. Please share the action steps you will take to build the leadership skills you outlined in your first application. Why are these steps the right steps to help you stretch and grow in new ways? (Maximum 1,800 characters, approximately 300 words)

**References**—If you are selected as a quarterfinalist, you'll be asked to provide the names of three references and how they're connected to you. Each of these people will be asked to participate in a 30-minute phone call with a Bush Foundation representative to discuss your leadership.

- The three references should include one person who has led you (for example, a work or volunteer supervisor, mentor, Board chair, etc), one person whom you have led, and a person of your choosing who can speak to your leadership ability and/or potential. At least one reference should be a person who lives in the region. Please do not include family members.
- It is more important that you choose the three people who know you well and can speak to your leadership skill and/or potential rather than a well-known person in the community who does not know you as well.
- A Bush Foundation representative will only contact references for applicants selected as semifinalists.

**Legal Judgments**—Having a criminal history does not automatically preclude you from receiving a Fellowship.

1. List any federal, state, or municipal law violation convictions. Exclude traffic violations or any violations which occurred prior to your 18th birthday. If none exist, write "n/a" in the box.
2. List any legal judgments, bankruptcy proceedings, lawsuits or legal claims pending or docketed against you. Exclude claims for less than \$100. If none exist, write "n/a" in the box.