Policy Entrepreneurship Fellowship

Overview

The Policy Entrepreneurship Fellowship (PEF) empowers and guides participants to move their Day One Project policy proposals from idea to reality. During this six month experience (running from January 9 – July 7, 2023), hosted by the Federation of American Scientist (FAS) in partnership with the Aspen Institute, each PEF works as a part-time FAS affiliate to (i) help their specific ideas gain traction among practitioners and decision makers, and (ii) identify and pursue opportunities for impact in underlying policy areas of interest.

PEFs receive the following benefits:

- A formal FAS affiliation, including an FAS email address, access to the internal FAS workspace, and opportunity to participate in all-staff meetings.

- Invitations to FAS programming, including policymaker Q&As, curated updates on the rapidly evolving federal S&T landscape, and interactive “deep dive” sessions on practical aspects of policy entrepreneurship.

- Policy-engagement training provided by the Aspen Tech Policy Hub’s Tech Executive Leadership Initiative.

- Personalized support from the Aspen Tech Policy Hub in developing a policy-implementation roadmap.

- Support from FAS and the Aspen Tech Policy Hub in connecting with key experts and actors.

- Twice monthly group check-ins (via Zoom) facilitated by FAS staff, monthly individual check-ins with a dedicated FAS staff mentor, plus additional meetings and communications as needed.

- Professional editing of written products developed during the fellowship.

- A $5,000 stipend. Fellows may also receive an additional $1,000 merit award, to be disbursed following the fellowship at the discretion of FAS staff (see below).
Expectations, requirements, and deliverables

The Policy Entrepreneurship Fellowship is designed as a flexible and open-ended opportunity for participants to pursue impact with the help of FAS resources. Merit-award evaluation will be based primarily on demonstrated engagement, commitment, enthusiasm, and creativity, and secondarily on satisfactory completion of the following minimum requirements and deliverables:

- **Participation in twice-monthly group check-ins.** The FAS staff will make every effort to schedule these check-ins at times that accommodate all participants. FAS staff will accommodate select absences (e.g., due to illness, work conflicts, or vacation) given appropriate notice.

- **Participation in the following programming provided by the Aspen Tech Policy Hub:**
  - Tuesday, January 31, 11:30–1pm ET: Defining a Problem in Government
  - Tuesday, February 7, 11:30–1pm ET: Stakeholder Mapping
  - Tuesday, February 14, 11:30–1pm ET: Solutions
  - Tuesday, February 21, 11:30–1pm ET: Policy and Advocacy Outputs
  - Two additional one-hour teaching sessions focused on developing policy-implementation roadmaps (dates and times TBD)

- **Identification and pursuit of at least three clear deliverables.** These deliverables will be developed early in the fellowship, with support from FAS and the Aspen Tech Policy Hub.

- **Completion of an interim progress report.** This report will be due at the midpoint of the fellowship, and should provide a narrative summary of progress made to date.

- **Compilation of a digital “PEF portfolio”.** The portfolio should collect all knowledge and materials assembled and created over the course of the fellowship. The portfolio should also include a narrative memorandum that captures the arc of your fellowship; summarizes accomplishments, difficulties, and insights encountered; identifies key stakeholders with whom you developed relationships; and identifies opportunities for future action.
Eligibility and application

The Policy Entrepreneurship Fellowship is open to anyone who (i) has previously written a policy proposal for the Day One Project or participated in a Day One Project accelerator, and (ii) can commit to dedicating an average of 5 hours/week (20 hours/month) to the fellowship from January 9–July 7, 2023, including the mandatory programming outlined above. (FAS will consider exempting participants from participation in mandatory sessions under exceptional circumstances). Preference will be given to early-career contributors and to contributors with limited experience working in public policy.

Applications are due by 11:59 PM ET on Sunday, December 11. Apply by clicking here.

Questions? Contact Cristina Velasquez (cvelasquez@fas.org).