

THE AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION (APA)

*Invites Applications for the
2009-2010*

APA CONGRESSIONAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM



PROGRAM: *Fellows spend one year working as a special legislative assistant on the staff of a member of Congress or congressional committee. Activities may involve drafting legislation, conducting oversight work, assisting with congressional hearings and events, and preparing briefs and speeches. Fellows also attend a two week orientation program on congressional and executive branch operations, which includes guidance in the congressional placement process, and participate in a year-long seminar series on science and public policy issues. The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) administers these aspects of the program for the APA Fellows and for fellows sponsored by over two dozen other professional societies.*

PURPOSE: *To provide psychologists with an invaluable public policy learning experience, to contribute to the more effective use of psychological knowledge in government, and to broaden awareness about the value of psychology-government interaction among psychologists and within the federal government.*

CRITERIA: *A prospective Fellow must demonstrate competence in scientific and/or professional psychology. Fellows must also demonstrate sensitivity toward policy issues and have a strong interest in applying psychological knowledge to the solution of societal challenges. Fellows must be able to work quickly and communicate effectively on a wide variety of topics, and be able to work cooperatively with individuals with diverse viewpoints. An applicant must be a psychologist, a member of APA (or applicant for membership), and a U.S. citizen. They must have a doctorate in psychology (from an APA accredited doctoral program and internship, if in the area of professional psychology) or related field by the application deadline. A special exception is made for current psychology interns who may apply with certification from the director of training in their doctoral program that they have met all but the internship requirement for their doctoral degree by the application deadline. It should be noted that preference will be given to applicants with two or more years of experience following receipt of their doctorate.*

AWARDS: *APA will sponsor up to five Fellows for a one-year appointment beginning September 1, 2009. Special Fellowships are available for mid-career clinicians and for psychologists with expertise in health and behavior issues, including HIV/AIDS (see separate program announcements). The Fellowship stipend ranges from \$64,500 to \$79,500, depending upon years of post-doctoral experience. In addition, \$3,750 is available for professional development travel expenses during the Fellowship year and relocation to the Washington, DC area. Final selection of Fellows will be made in early spring of 2009.*

APPLICATION: *All materials must be postmarked by **January 7, 2009**. The application includes: (1) a completed APA Congressional Fellowship Application Coversheet, available at www.apa.org/ppo/fellows/coversheet.pdf; (2) a detailed vita providing information about educational background, professional employment and activities, professional publications and presentations, public policy and legislative experience, and committee and advisory group appointments; (3) a statement of approximately 1000 words addressing the applicant's interests in the Fellowship, career goals, and what the applicant can contribute to and learn from the experience; and (4) three letters of reference specifically addressing the applicant's ability to serve successfully on Capitol Hill as a special legislative assistant.*

Application materials should be sent to: Congressional Fellowship Program, Government Relations Office, Public Interest Directorate, American Psychological Association, 750 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002-4242. For additional information, please contact Micah Haskell-Hoehl, Program Administrator, at (202) 336-5935 or mhaskell-hoehl@apa.org or visit the Fellowship Web site at www.apa.org/ppofellows.