



BLU EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

BLACK EQUITY FELLOWSHIPS 2021-2022

Application Deadline: January 7th, 2021

[View Application](#)

OVERVIEW

The Black Equity Fellowship is a component of the Black Equity Initiative established in 2014, composed of organizations within the Inland Empire that shared a unified vision on improving social conditions through empowerment, education, and policy change. The Black Equity Fellowship is a six-month fellowship designed to provide experiential learning to students committed to achieving racial and social justice throughout the Inland Empire by providing organizational development and research support to Black Led Organizations (BLO) to increase their capacity for success in reaching liberation for Black communities.

Fellows will receive leadership and development training, network with local black-led organizations, professional development, and a financial award of \$12,500 for the duration of the fellowship. The fellowship will begin on February 1st 2022, and end on July 1st, 2022.

The BEI fellowship will focus on the following areas:

- **Systems Change:** To develop, strengthen and scale Black-led and empowering organizations' sustainability and collective ability to engage in systems change work to promote racial equity in (#) issue areas.

* Systems Change: A change in the policies, processes, relationships, knowledge, power structures, values, or norms that guide how organizations function internally and in relation to other organizations.



- Power Building: To support strategies that focus on engaging and mobilizing diverse constituencies of Black people (young people, families, system impacted persons, faith leaders, and communities) to build Black power and for long-term impact.

* Power Building strategies may include non-partisan voter engagement, base building, and leadership development.

FELLOWSHIPS

There are three focus areas for the Black Equity Initiative Fellowship: Research, Communications, and Systems Change. Each fellowship has different requirements and responsibilities. Please review the guidelines below. If you have any questions regarding the requirements or the application process, please email info@bluedfoundation.org.

Black Equity Research Fellowship

The Research Fellowship is designed to support scholars interested in undergraduate or graduate-level research, focused on providing research support to BLOs within the Inland Empire.

Under the direct supervision and guidance from a faculty mentor and support from the BLU Educational Foundation, the fellow will carry out the assigned research project. They are encouraged to complete an honors thesis with their home departments, where available.

The BEI research fellow will:

- Conceptualize and develop a research study around the parameters identified by the fellowship.
- Collect, create, process, and analyze data.
- Prepare a cumulative report on the findings of the study.



Responsibilities:

- Attend an orientation during the first week of the program.
- Meet with the faculty mentor regularly.
- Execute the research study as outlined and agreed upon.
- Attend bi-weekly leadership and development training workshops.
- Attend BLO and funder meetings, as needed.
- Prepare and submit monthly progress reports.
- Prepare and give a presentation during the year-end BEI Conference.

Requirements:

- U.S. Citizen or a permanent resident
- Graduate or undergraduate
- African-American/Black Student
- All majors accepted.
- In good academic standing with an overall GPA of 3.0 or equivalent.
- Work no more than 20 hours per week during the academic year.
- Must have at least one quarter/semester of research experience.

Professional Communications Fellowship

The Professional Communications Fellowship is designed to support student scholars interested in working with BLOs, developing communications and narrative-building efforts to amplify their work and the coalition's progress to the community.

Responsibilities:

- Attend an orientation during the first week of the program.
- Meet with the CBO regularly.
- Execute the project as outlined and agreed upon.
- Prepare written reports, update the website and digital engagement.
- Attend bi-weekly leadership and development training workshops.
- Attend BLO and funder meetings, as needed.
- Prepare and submit monthly progress reports.
- Prepare and give a presentation during the year-end BEI Conference.



Requirements:

- U.S. Citizen or a permanent resident
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Graduate or undergraduate
- African American/Black Student
- Accepted Majors: Public Administration, Sociology, Political Science, Criminal Justice, Communications, Business Administration.
- In good academic standing with an overall GPA of 3.0 or equivalent.
- Must work no more than 20 hours per week during the academic year.

Black Equity Systems Change Fellowship

The Black Equity Systems Change Fellowship is designed to support the development of, and strengthen and scale, Black-led and empowering organizations' sustainability and collective ability to engage in systems change work to promote racial equity in key issue areas.

Under the supervision of BLU, the fellow will develop learning sessions for the BLOs, including curriculum for systems change and power building, infrastructure building, setting governance, agenda-setting, and aligning policy agendas based on CBO priorities.

Responsibilities:

- Attend an orientation during the first week of the program.
- Meet with the CBO regularly.
- Execute the project as outlined and agreed upon.
- Attend bi-weekly leadership and development training workshops.
- Attend BLO and funder meetings, as needed.
- Prepare and submit monthly progress reports.
- Prepare and give a presentation during the year-end BEI Conference.



Requirements:

- U.S. Citizen or a permanent resident
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Graduate or undergraduate
- African American/Black Student
- Accepted Majors: Public Administration, Sociology, Political Science, Criminal Justice, Communications, Business Administration.
- In good academic standing with an overall GPA of 3.0 or equivalent.
- Must work no more than 20 hours per week during the academic year.

GENERAL SUBMISSIONS GUIDELINES

Applicants should follow the following submission guidelines for consideration:

- All applications must be submitted online. [Click here.](#) Applicants will receive an electronic notification when the application has been received and accepted. **The application deadline is Friday, January 7th, 2022, by 11:59 pm.**
- Along with your online application, please ensure that you submit the following documents with your application:
 - Two letters of recommendation
 - A two-page resume listing extracurricular activities, honors, employment, community service, and special skills.
 - Essay 1 and 2 Responses
 - Current academic transcripts
- The application must be no longer than three pages in length.
- All supporting documents must be submitted at the time of submission.

Document Format

- The proposal file must be uploaded in PDF format.
- Please use Times New Roman or Arial font at 12-point size.
-



- The right and left margins must be no smaller than 0.75 inches. Top and bottom margins must be no smaller than 1 inch.
- Please number the pages consecutively.

Application Essays

The selection committee would like to learn about your goals and aspirations. Please respond to the following prompts of no more than 500 words each.

Essay 1:

- a. What are your educational and career goals?
- b. How have your past experiences shaped or prepared you for your career aspirations?

Essay 2:

- a. What has been your experience with interacting with local community-based organizations?
- b. Why are you interested in this fellowship? And how will this fellowship help you to attain your goals?
- c. What is your experience related to the fellowship you are applying to?

Letter of Recommendations

Letters should come from faculty who have taught you as an undergraduate or graduate. Letters should be emailed to info@bluedfoundation.org.