Overview of New England Council Fellowship for Host Organizations

Overview

In 2025, The New England Council established the New England Council Fellows Program in recognition of the organization's 100th anniversary. In 2026, the program was expanded, doubling the number of fellows from six to 12 - two in each New England state. In 2027, the Council will again select a total of 12 organizations to host our 2027 NEC Fellows. Under this program, the Council provides $5,000 grants to charitable non-profit organizations in the New England region to support the hiring of a summer fellow to support the organization's charitable mission. The goal of this program is two-fold:

1. The Council aims to support worthy organizations in New England by enabling them to hire additional support during the summer.
2. The Council also aims to help young adults gain valuable work experience to prepare them for long-term career success.

TO APPLY

501(c)(3) organizations based in New England who interested in hosting a New England Council fellow are asked to complete a short application form providing background information on the organization, its mission, and its needs. The applicant will also be asked to provide an overview of the job responsibilities for the proposed NEC Fellow, as well as an overview of plans to provide training and supervision of the fellow.

APPLY HERE

The deadline to apply to host a NEC Fellow during the summer of 2027 is Friday, January 29, 2027. Applications will be reviewed by the New England Council Fellowship Advisory Committee, comprised of NEC Board Members representing different industries and states. The Committee will select a diverse group of host organizations representing a wide array of sectors/areas of focus.

Applicants will be notified whether they have been selected by the end of February 2027.

Selection of Fellows

Once an organization is selected to host a NEC Fellow, that organization will have the discretion to advertise the position as they see fit, and screen candidates based on their needs and necessary qualifications. Once the organization has selected their NEC Fellow position, the fellow will be asked to meet virtually with the Council's President & CEO, as

well as 1-2 members of the Fellowship Advisory Committee prior to beginning their fellowship position.

Program Guidelines

- The New England Council will provide $5,000 to the selected host organizations to be paid to the fellow.
- New England Council Fellows will be employed for 7-10 weeks during the summer months, on a schedule to be determined based upon the needs of the host organization. Fellowship positions must be a minimum of 20 hours per week.
- Fellows should be current undergraduate or graduate students, or recent college graduates.
- Host organizations are strongly encouraged to consider students from underrepresented backgrounds for fellowship positions.
- Host organizations agree that they will provide the student with appropriate training and supervision, and will assign the fellow substantive duties and responsibilities that will help them to develop their skills and prepare them for future careers.
- At the beginning of the fellowship, fellows will be asked to provide basic biographical information to be shared on NEC website.
- During the summer, the Council will host several virtual meetings for the fellows and their supervisors, including an introductory meeting at the beginning of the summer, and several virtual “lunch and learn” session on topics such as non-profit communications, non-profit advocacy, and financial literacy.
- At the end of the fellowship, each student will be asked to write and submit an essay of not more than 1000 words reflecting on their fellowship experience. Essay prompts will be provided to the fellows at the outset of their fellowship term, and essays will be due to the Council by Friday, September 3, 2027.
- Organizations who have previously hosted a NEC Fellow are eligible to apply again in 2027, and will be considered by the Fellowship Committee among the field of applicants. Prior host organizations will not be given preferential treatment in the selection process.

New England Council Involvement

- As noted above, the Council President & CEO, along with 1-2 Fellowship Advisory Committee members, will meet with the selected candidates selected by host organizations prior to their employment start date.
- In addition, the Council President & CEO and/or members of the Fellowship Advisory Committee will visit with each of the fellows at their place of employment at some point during the summer.
- Fellows will be highlighted on the Council website with a photo, brief bio, and information on their fellowship placement.
- Fellows will be invited to attend Council events, both during their fellowship and following completion of their fellowship, where they will have the opportunity to hear from and meet guest speakers – including a variety of elected officials – and to network with

Council members. We ask that host organizations allow fellows the flexibility to attend these events during their fellowship.

- Fellows and their supervisors will also have the opportunity to connect with past program participants, including through membership in a LinkedIn group for past fellows and supervisors.
- At the end of the summer, the Council will host a luncheon in Boston for all of the fellows and their supervisor (or the appropriate representative of their host organization) to thank them for their participation in the program. NEC staff, members of the Fellowship Advisory Committee, and other members of the NEC Board of Directors will also be invited to the luncheon, where the fellows will have the opportunity to network and share their experiences during their fellowship.

Questions?

If you have any questions about the New England Council Fellows Program, please contact Emily Heisig (eheisig@newenglandcouncil.com).