



The Graduate Health Policy Fellowship

The Center for Health Policy Studies at The Heritage Foundation is pleased to announce the opportunity for a fellowship open to graduate students pursuing degrees in a variety of disciplines, including health policy, public policy, medicine, economics, statistics, business, and other policy-related fields.

The program is designed to help graduate students launch a career in shaping a health policy guided by conservative principles.

The Fellowship

Established at The Heritage Foundation in 2002, the Center for Health Policy Studies works to ensure that Americans have the world's best health system, a consumer-choice market-based system in which health insurance and services reflect the needs and choices of individuals. Toward this end, the center endeavors to educate policy makers to take decisive steps to move today's bureaucracy driven, heavily regulated third-party payment system to a new patient-centered system of consumer choice and real free-market competition.

Many public policy students obtain little practical experience in the field during their undergraduate and graduate years and do not consider public policy as a career option. The Heritage Foundation's Fellowship program, offered by the nation's leading conservative public policy research foundation, is designed to provide a select number of participants with a hands-on introduction to public policy work, including the opportunity to meet and work with experts in the field.

The typical health policy fellow recipient is in the transitional stage between completion of graduate school and launching a career in public policy. The fellowship is designed to offer such graduate students the opportunity to spend three months fully researching a health policy issue of mutual interest to the candidate and the Center for Health Policy Studies. Participants will be mentored by senior research analysts at The Heritage Foundation during and after the program as well as the assistance of the Heritage Foundation in launching and establishing careers in public policy in both the private and public sectors.



Program Structure

- The center awards two paid fellowships each year, approximately three months long.
- Fellows must reside in the Washington, DC area during the program and must be available 40 hours per week for the full length of the program.
- Fellows will spend their time at the Foundation, engaged in policy projects designed in conjunction with the Director of the Health Policy Center and Heritage research analysts. These projects will be designed to complement graduate work or other studies participants undertake through their universities.
- Fellows will participate in a series of meetings with individuals who have successfully shaped health policy, including staff of congressional leaders, senior civil servants; and former Heritage fellows, who have served in federal or state government, including the White House. Through these meetings, fellows can learn how the careers of these policy experts evolved and can establish helpful contacts in Washington that may assist them in their own careers in public policy.

Application Requirements for Health Policy Fellowship

A qualified applicant to the Health Policy Fellowship program will be able to demonstrate that he or she meets the following requirements:

- Enrolled in, or recently completed, a graduate program in health policy, public policy, medicine, economics, statistics, business, or other policy-related field
- Excellence in quantitative analysis and statistical methods, evidenced by graduate-level statistics and methods courses
- Completion of most (typically, all) graduate level coursework
- Likely to complete graduate level work in an area of interest to the Health Policy Center mission, i.e., entitlement program reform, tax treatment of health care, state health care reform

Applicants to the program should mail or email the following:

- A resume
- A list of public policy or health-care related courses taken
- A letter of recommendation related to this type of program
- A short essay (up to 1,500 words) on the health-care policy change he/she would work to bring about if in a political office today
- A list of favorite health care policy areas (highest interest first)
- A letter explaining why this career track program is of interest to the applicant and why he/she should be selected

To the following address:

Leslie Merkle
The Heritage Foundation
214 Massachusetts Avenue NE
Washington DC 20002
Leslie.Merkle@heritage.org



The Value of the Health Policy Fellow Experience

“The Heritage Foundation is at the center of the finest conservative thinking in health policy today. My fellowship at Heritage was instrumental in shaping my career, developing my own views on crucial health policy questions of the day, and placing me in contact with the leading policymakers and thinkers in the field. Everything about my experience, but especially my colleagues and the working environment at Heritage, was second to none. I truly believe that there is no better place in America from which to contribute to America’s most significant health policy debates than at The Heritage Foundation” – **Lanhee J. Chen, Domestic Policy Director for the Romney Presidential Campaign (MA, JD, PhD (ABD), Harvard University)**

“The Heritage Foundation is on the front lines of the health care debate in America. Heritage is plugged-in enough to advance conservative principles in a concrete way but independent enough to maintain the highest standards of integrity. My Heritage health policy fellowship gave me the opportunity not only to learn and observe, but also to participate and contribute as a member of a team where my work was valued. The knowledge, skills, and relationships fostered during my fellowship prepared me in every way possible to advance my career as a conservative in the health policy world.”

– **Randy Pate, Senior Advisor for Health Policy, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (JD, University of Alabama, MPH, Johns Hopkins University)**

“My fellowship experience has been invaluable. It has facilitated opportunities and experiences that would otherwise not be possible.” - **Cheryl Smith, Technical Assistant in Health Policy for Government Huntsman (R-UT) (MPP, Brigham Young University)**

“The Health Policy Fellowship at The Heritage Foundation placed me in the midst of the issues affecting the U.S. healthcare system. I had the opportunity to meet directly with Congressional leaders and state legislators to discuss topics ranging from SCHIP to specialty hospitals to health insurance exchanges. The Health Policy Fellowship gave me tangible insights on the various players in the healthcare debate, and the processes involved in changing healthcare in America.” - **Ashok Roy, Senior Consultant, Deloitte Consulting (M.D., USC; M.P.H., Johns Hopkins; M.B.A., M.I.T.)**

“The Heritage Fellowship was a great opportunity to learn about the healthcare policymaking process in Washington DC while making a positive impact on issues I am passionate about. The exposures I had to exceptional conservative thinkers at Heritage expanded my philosophical underpinning and helped me see how conservative ideas apply in a real-world policy setting. This has shaped my career plans and public service aspirations. Finally, I enjoyed the atmosphere and the people at Heritage. The network is strong and even two years after my fellowship I continue to enjoy the way my connection to Heritage keeps me involved in conservative public policy issues.”

- **Luke Leininger, Consultant at Bain & Company (MBA, Harvard University)**

For more information on The Heritage Foundation’s Center for Health Policy Studies, visit <http://www.heritage.org/research/healthcare>



Application for Graduate Health Policy Fellowship

Name				
Home or Permanent Address				
Address at School			Send correspondence to:	
Phone	Cell Phone	E-mail		
Date of Birth				
Are you authorized to work in the U.S.?				
Graduate School	Date of Graduation	Degree Sought	GPA	
Undergraduate School	Date of Graduation	Major	Minor	GPA
References				
<hr/>				
Name	Title	Institution		
Address	Phone	E-mail		
<hr/>				
Name	Title	Institution		
Address	Phone	E-mail		