2021-2022 NYC Service Fellowship Program
Frequently Asked Questions

Application Process

What does the application process entail?
The application opens in May 2021. Each applicant is asked to complete our online form and submit the following:

- Unofficial Transcript: an official transcript is required upon acceptance into the fellowship.
- Resume
- One Essay
- A personal statement not to exceed 750 words.
- Two References (at least one from a current or former supervisor) who must submit a letter of recommendation by the deadline of the application. Applicants may not submit letters on behalf of their references. References will receive an email once the completed application is submitted.
- Work Sample - Candidates invited to participate in the panel interview round will be required to submit one sample of previous work that demonstrates their professional skills and/or past work experience. Work samples may include, but are not limited to: project plans, academic papers, social media toolkits, fact sheets, reports, and PowerPoint presentations.

What is qualified as a service experience?
We recognize that volunteerism and service exist in many forms. We expect applicants to have one year of volunteer or service experience by the time the position is offered.

Is there an interview process?
Yes, select finalists will be interviewed via phone and potentially scheduled for two additional in-person interviews. In-person interviews typically include a panel of the hiring manager and two additional NYC Service staff. Second round in-person interviews may include the Acting NYC Chief Service Officer and hiring manager.

Can I defer my acceptance for one year?
No. Finalists must decide if they will accept the NYC Service Coordinator position for the year or release the spot for a wait listed candidate. If eligible, a candidate can re-apply the following year.

Can I re-apply to the program and use the two essays I already submitted?
Applicants may re-apply if they are still eligible but must submit a new application and revised application materials.
How are we be notified throughout the process?
All communication will be done via email.

Do we need to submit both undergraduate and graduate transcripts, or just need graduate transcripts?
Send most recent transcript to prove completion of your degree.

Can you apply for multiple fellowship coordinator positions?
Applicants can only select up to two positions.

Eligibility

How do I determine if I am eligible?
Please see eligibility.

Do I have to be a U.S. citizen to apply?
Applicants DO NOT need to be U.S. citizens. However, applicants must be able to demonstrate their eligibility to work in the United States after graduation and for the entire program period. Applicants must meet the criteria set forth by the I-9, “Employment Eligibility Verification,” from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). The NYC Service Fellowship Program does not sponsor work visas.

Is there an age limit to apply to this program?
There is absolutely no age limit to apply to the program. Please see eligibility.

Fellowship Details

When does the NYC Service Fellowship Program begin? How long is the commitment?
The 2021-2022 NYC Service Fellowship will begin in August or September 2021, depending on the position, and the program is a one-year (12 month) commitment. Each Coordinator position has a different start date during the period mentioned above.

How much are NYC Service Coordinators in the Program paid?
NYC Service Coordinators in our program receive a taxable stipend of $55,326 for the 12-month program.

What are the health benefits for the fellowship?
There is a choice of paid health insurance plans (vision and dental not included). Health insurance (not including vision or dental) is also offered by the City. Some options are free and some have additional costs taken by payroll deductions. NYC Service Coordinators choose the option that works best for them, if they wish to enroll.
**General Questions**

**Does the City pay the NYC Service Coordinators relocation and/or housing expenses?**
The City does not pay for relocation and housing expenses. NYC Service Coordinators are expected to secure their own housing arrangements.

**Can fellows continue with the program for a second or third year?**
Dependent on funding and satisfactory performance during the first year of the fellowship, a fellow may be invited to continue for a second and possibly a third year. Most fellows who continue for a second or third year remain in their original position. If a fellow wanted to switch to another position for a second or third year, they would need to submit a formal application to the position of interest.

**Can I go to graduate school part-time or at night while serving as a NYC Service Coordinator in the program?**
NYC Service Coordinators are expected to commit full-time to the twelve-month program. Due to the intensive nature of the work, Coordinators may only attend graduate school part-time (e.g. 1 class) after work hours. If you are already enrolled in a master's degree program and are accepted into the NYC Service Fellowship Program, you will need to move to a part-time status during the duration of this program or defer the graduate program. This fellowship is a full-time commitment with potential late nights, early mornings, and weekends. Coordinators and supervisors plan and communicate if and when commitments outside of 9-5 work hours are needed.

**If we have further questions, who do we email?**
Please feel free to send an email to NYCServiceFellows@cityhall.nyc.gov.