



Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellowship

Fellows Application Questions 2025-2027

To apply to the Leland Fellowship, you will **submit a resume** as well as answer several multiple choice and short essay questions. The application form will not save your progress; we **strongly recommend** reviewing the questions in this document to prepare your answers in advance and copying and pasting them into the form on our website when you are ready to submit your application.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

- **Are you a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Legal Resident?**

The Leland Fellowship is funded by the U.S. government to support development of future U.S. leaders and is only open to U.S. citizens and permanent residents. Applicants with DACA status are not eligible.

- **Do you agree that if selected, you will serve as a 1099 contractor, which includes being responsible for paying self-employment taxes and obtaining your own health insurance?**

Leland Fellows serve as 1099 contractors and are not employees of the Congressional Hunger Center or their host organizations.

HEADLINE

- **In no more than 10 words, tell us why you would be a great Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellow.**

SKILLS AND PREFERENCES

- **Select skills you are most proficient in. Briefly describe how you have used each skill in your work and/or academic experiences.** Please pick only THREE (3) skills that you are really good at. How you have used each of these skills?

- Advocacy
- Business Acumen (finance, marketing, and/or risk management)
- Coalition Building
- Communications (interpersonal, public speaking)
- Data Science
- Knowledge Management
- Monitoring & Evaluation
- Nutrition (Nutrition Through the Life Cycle, Agriculture-Nutrition Linkages, Nutrition Programming)
- Policy Analysis
- Project Design
- Project Management
- Qualitative Research
- Quantitative Research
- Training
- Working knowledge of: R and/or Python
- Working knowledge of: Strata, SPSS, and/or SAS
- Writing for Varied Audiences (academic, creative, professional)
- Other

All photographs used in this document were taken or provided by the 2023 - 2025 Mickey Leland Fellows and staff. Photos capture activities which occurred during the first placement year.



LANGUAGE SKILLS

- **Indicate your proficiency levels for the following languages using ILR scale.**
 - 0 - No Proficiency: I don't know the language at all.
 - 1 - Elementary Proficiency: I can understand and use basic everyday phrases.
 - 2 - Limited Working Proficiency: I can communicate simple ideas in my area, but I find complex conversations hard.
 - 3 - Professional Working Proficiency: I can use the language well at work and manage complex tasks, but I still make some mistakes.
 - 4 - Full Professional Proficiency: I can communicate effectively in all work and social situations, with good fluency and accuracy.
 - 5 - Native or Bilingual Proficiency: I speak as well as a native speaker.
- **Rate your French, Spanish, Swahili and other language(s) skills.** Using the ILR scale, rate your proficiency speaking, reading, writing and listening.
- **List additional language(s).** If you don't use other language(s), enter "NA". Rate your proficiency - speaking, reading, writing, and listening.

BACKGROUND AND INTEREST

The following information will be used to match finalist with prospective host organizations. The Leland Fellowship is based on a two-placement structure, matching fellows with host organizations based on the hosts' needs and workplan and the fellows' skills, experiences and interests. While we can't guarantee alignment between all your needs and available host placements, we strive to find the best match for you and the host organization.

- **Work in DEVELOPMENT typically includes some, if not all, of the following areas.** Select no more than FIVE (5) areas in which you have a strong background and/or a lot of experience. In no more than 150 words, describe your educational background and/or experience in this area.
 - Agricultural Livelihoods
 - Agriculture (productivity-related)
 - Agriculture-Nutrition Linkages
 - Capacity Building
 - Community Development
 - Disaster Risk Reduction
 - Economic Development
 - Environmental Sustainability
 - Health Systems Strengthening
 - Menstrual Health & Hygiene
 - Microfinance & Financial Inclusion Policy Development
 - Social Inclusion (gender equity, empowerment, access to services etc...)
 - Social Protection / Safety Nets
 - Value Chains & Market Systems
 - Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH)
- **Work in HUMANITARIAN and EMERGENCY NUTRITION typically may include some, if not all, of the following areas.** Select no more than FIVE (5) areas in which you have a strong educational background and/or a lot of experience.
 - Community-Based Nutrition Programs
 - Disaster Response & Food Assistance
 - Dietetics & Food Security
 - Health & Nutrition Integration
 - Humanitarian Policy
 - Infant & Young Child Feeding (IYCF)
 - Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM)
 - Nutrition in Refugee Settings
 - Nutrition in Humanitarian Contexts (excludes conflict zones)
 - Nutrition in Humanitarian Contexts (includes conflict zones)
 - Nutritional Status Assessment
- **Which of the following sectors most interest you?** Select one from the list: Development, Humanitarian and Emergency Nutrition, or Both

TIME OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- **List any regions of the world where you would be unwilling to serve, and why.**
If you will serve in any location, please enter "ANY."
- **Over the two-year fellowship, how many years would you like to be placed in the United States?**
Select from the list: Zero, One, Two, or No Preferences.
- **Under what circumstances have you spent time outside the United States?** (Check all that apply)
 - Volunteer Work
 - Extended Independent Travel
 - Full-Time Employment
 - Internship
 - Cultural Immersion Program
 - Peace Corps
 - Study Abroad
 - Language Immersion Program
 - I Grew Up Overseas
 - Fellowship Program
 - University Graduate Project
 - Other
- **Summarize the international experiences you selected above.**
In no more than 150 words, describe the purpose of your visits, how long you stayed, the nature of your experience, how these experiences have prepared you for the Leland Fellowship.

SHORT ESSAY

- **This two-year fellowship offers practical experience in international development, focusing on food security, humanitarian response, and emergency nutrition.**
In no more than 150 words, share an experience or event that changed your view on international development and how it has impacted your mindset.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **The Hunger Center is committed to inclusivity and does not discriminate based on economic status, gender identity, gender expression, race, ethnicity or sexual orientation.**
To evaluate the effectiveness of our recruitment efforts and better address the needs of all our Hunger Fellows, we invite you to answer the following questions.
- **I am a first-generation college student.**
Select from the list: Yes, No, or I prefer not to say.
- **I have personal experience with food insecurity and have received food assistance.**
For example, food stamps (SNAP), school meals (reduced-price meals), WIC, or other nutrition programs.
Select from the list: Yes, No, or I prefer not to say.



• **I have lived experience with poverty.**

Select from the list: Yes, No, or I prefer not to say.

• **I identify as someone from a low-income background.**

Select from the list: Yes, No, or I prefer not to say!

• **I identify my gender as...**

(Please select ONE option that best describes you)

- Male
- Female
- Non-binary
- Genderfluid
- Genderqueer
- Agender
- Transgender Male / Trans Man
- Transgender Female / Trans Woman
- Two-Spirit
- Intersex
- Prefer not to say
- Other (please specify)

• **I identify my ethnicity as...**

Select from the list: Hispanic or Latino, Not Hispanic or Latino, or Prefer not to say

• **I identify my race as...**

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- Black or African American
- White
- Asian
- Some Other Race
- Prefer not to say

• **By September 2025, I will have earned or expect to have earned these degrees.**

- No college degree
- Associate's degree
- Bachelor's degree
- Master's degree
- Advanced degree (PhD, JD, PharmD, DMV etc.)

• **What is the GPA of your most advanced degree?**

• **I heard/learned about the Leland Fellowship through these resources...**

Please select your top three (3) sources of information.

- Friends and Family
- College or University Faculty / Staff
- College or University Career Office
- Career Fair or Conference
- Employer
- Internet Search
- Social Media
- Hunger Center Website
- Zero Hunger Academy
- Hunger Center Newsletter
- Leland Bulletin
- Former Zero Hunger Intern
- Current or former Emerson Fellow
- Current or former Leland Fellow
- Devex
- GoodFoodJobs
- Idealist
- Indeed
- LinkedIn
- Profellow
- Other

• **I have applied or plan to apply to the Emerson Fellowship this year.**

(Yes or No)

• **I would like to receive future email updates from the Hunger Center.**

(Yes or No)

Once you've drafted your responses, please proceed to the application and submit your application. Thank you for your interest in the Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellowship!