

Student Name: _____
Graduation Year: _____
Major 1: _____
Major 2: _____
Major 3: _____
Minor(s): _____
Academic Advisor(s): _____

Student ID: _____

Hometown: _____
Concentration: _____
Concentration: _____
Concentration: _____

Donald M. Payne International Development Fellowship Program

Award Details:

Emphasis:

Academic

Research

Language

Experiential

International

Brief Description:

The Payne Fellowship encourages the application of members of minority groups who have historically been underrepresented in international development careers and those with financial need. The fellowship is named in honor of longtime development champion, the late Congressman Donald Payne. The initiative is funded by USAID and administered by Howard University. Fellowship recipients can use the award to attend U.S. graduate programs throughout the country; they will join the USAID Foreign Service upon completion of the program, as long as they successfully complete the Payne Program and USAID entry requirements.

In 2018 the Payne Fellowship Program plans to award seven fellowships valued at up to \$48,000 annually for a two-year program. The award includes up to \$22,000 per year toward tuition and mandatory fees for completion of a two-year master's degree at a U.S. institution; a \$16,000 stipend for each academic year for room, board, books and other education-related expenses; and up to \$10,000 per year in stipend, housing, transportation, and related expenses for summer internships (see below). At the conclusion of two years of study, the Payne Fellow is expected to obtain a degree in international development or another area of relevance to the work of the USAID Foreign Service at a U.S. graduate or professional school approved by the Payne Program. Fellows who successfully complete the Payne Program and USAID Foreign Service entry requirements will receive appointments as Foreign Service Officers with the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Can The Award Be Deferred? No

Can The Award Be Renewed? Yes

Scholarship Conditions:

Eligibility Requirements

- Applicants must be U.S. citizens.
- Applicants must be seeking admission to enter graduate school in the fall of 2018 for a two-year program at a U.S. university. They can be in the senior year of their undergraduate studies, graduating by June 2018, or they can be college graduates.
- Applicants must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.2 or higher on a 4.0 scale at the time of application.

Note: Applicants are not required to be Howard University students or applying to Howard for graduate school.

Eligibility:

Applicant Education Level:	Senior undergraduate or recent graduate
Open to (Non-US) International Students:	No
Required to Demonstrate Financial Aid:	Yes
Specified Majors:	Graduate degrees in international affairs or a related subject such as development, economics, history, political science, public administration, communications, public policy, business administration, foreign languages, agriculture, environmental sciences, or urban planning
Minimum GPA:	3.2
Age Limit:	18-65

Candidate Profile: Key Characteristics Sought By Review Committee

The Payne Program expects to award ten fellowships in 2018. A panel of individuals with experience in the USAID Foreign Service and academia makes selections for the Payne Fellowship. The selection panel will consider candidates' academic work, statements of interest, letters of recommendation, and honors and awards, as well as their community, extracurricular, and leadership activities. Consideration will be given to qualified applicants who, in addition to outstanding leadership skills and academic achievement, demonstrate financial need.

The Payne selection panel will choose finalists by the end of February. The Payne Program staff will communicate decisions to both successful and unsuccessful applicants by the end of February. Candidates selected for final consideration will be invited to Washington, D.C. for interviews and to prepare a writing sample in mid-March. The program will pay the cost of accommodations and travel to Washington, DC from within the continental United States, Hawaii, and Alaska. The program will strive to complete the selection process and make offers to five fellows soon after the interview.

Applicants should carefully review the USAID Foreign Service requirements for medical and security clearances. Participation in the Payne Program is conditional upon successful completion of pre-employment procedures specified by the U.S. Agency for International Development, including background investigations for a security clearance, medical examinations (to include spouse and eligible family members if applicable) and drug tests. Failure to meet medical and security requirements may result in an applicant's disqualification from the fellowship program and reimbursement to the U.S. government of financial assistance paid in connection with the applicant's education. For more information, see <http://www.usaid.gov/work-usaid/careers/foreign-service/foreign-service-officer-faq>.

Applicants are expected to undertake the steps necessary to complete the process of applying for a USAID Foreign Service Officer position, including participating in the Foreign Service Assessment Process (FSAP) prior to completion of the academic requirements associated with the Payne Fellowship Program.

The average GPA of recipients is 3.3.

Selection:

Number of Candidates Awarded Each Year:	10
Interview:	In-Person (Travel Costs Covered)
Approximate Date Selected Candidates Are Notified:	March

Contact Information:

Name: Ms. Cynthia Valentine
 Position: Program Manager
 Street Address: 2218 6th Street, NW
 City / State / Zip: Washington, D.C., 20059
 General E-mail: PayneFellows@Howard.edu
 Phone: 202-806-5952

Information Sessions:

Webinars for Candidates: Yes, Fall Semester
 Webinars for Advisors: No

Website:

Official Website: <https://www.paynefellows.org/?session.areaid=2&contentid=941>

Application:

Date Application is Available: October
 Application Due Date: January 19, 2018
 Application Must Be Submitted By: Candidate or Advisor on candidate's behalf
 Institutional Endorsement Required: No
 Institutional Cover Letter Required: No

Application Process:

<i>The application includes the following</i>	Deadline	Date Completed																								
Background Information	01/19/2018	_____																								
Personal Statement ¹	01/19/2018	_____																								
Financial Statement ²	01/19/2018	_____																								
Two Letters of Recommendation ³	01/19/2018	_____																								
<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 30%;">Name</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Position</th> <th style="width: 20%;">Date Notified</th> <th style="width: 20%;">Date Completed</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Name	Position	Date Notified	Date Completed	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____		
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_____	_____	_____	_____																							
Proof of U.S. Citizenship ⁴	01/19/2018	_____																								

Student Aid Report	01/19/2018	_____
GE or GMAT Scores	01/19/2018	_____
Official Financial Aid Statement	01/19/2018	_____
Official Transcripts ⁵	01/19/2018	_____

1. A personal statement (in 600 words or less) that discusses the applicant's reasons for applying, interest in foreign affairs, commitment to pursue a USAID Foreign Service career and any relevant experience or information.

2. A statement (in 400 words or less) from the applicant that discusses his/her need for financial assistance to attend graduate school, including an explanation of:

1. The financial assistance received during undergraduate studies
2. Overall education-related debt
3. Ability/plans to pay for graduate school independently

3. Two letters of recommendation:

- One from a faculty member who is well acquainted with the individual
- One from a community leader or other individual who can comment on the applicant's non-academic accomplishments and the applicant's potential to serve as a USAID Foreign Service Officer.
- Note: In the online application, applicants will identify recommenders, who will be contacted by the program and asked to submit letters electronically.

4. Proof of U.S. citizenship with a copy of: (choose one)

- Birth certificate
- Certificate of U.S. citizenship
- U.S. passport
- (Note: This should be uploaded in easy to read PDF format. Applicants are required to bring originals to the interview, if selected as a finalist.)

5. Official Transcripts from ALL colleges and universities the applicant has attended for credit. Please use a school-generated transcript. An official transcript is best; a student copy is acceptable if it is in the format of an official transcript. (If selected for an interview, you will have to bring an official transcript, in a sealed envelope, to the interview.) Note: Applicants will upload this into the application using either Word or PDF format.