

2022-23 Capital Fellows Applications
Written Questions

Essays for the Jesse M. Unruh Assembly Fellowship

Assembly Fellowship Personal Statement: The Assembly Fellowship Program provides a unique opportunity for eighteen individuals to serve in essential roles as legislative staff. Please describe yourself and your future aspirations, and discuss why you are applying to the Assembly Fellowship Program and how your experience, skills, and other attributes make you well qualified to serve as an Assembly Fellow. If selected, what are your immediate goals following the conclusion of the fellowship. Also, please include in your personal statement a brief statement (no more than a short paragraph) about your political philosophy and how you would describe yourself politically. (Two-page limit; typed, double-spaced; 12 pt. font).

Assembly Fellowship Policy Statement: Please answer the following questions- The legislature is facing many pressing issues. If you were an Assembly Member, which policy issue would be your top priority? What change or changes would you propose to address this issue? Describe how your proposed changes would improve California. (One-page limit; typed, double-spaced; 12 pt. font).

Essays for the Executive Fellowship

Please answer the following two questions separately using no more than two pages for prompt #1, and one page for prompt #2 (typed; double-spaced; 12 pt. font). The selection committee will not read more than three pages total. Keep in mind the selection committee is interested in learning about you, your interest in California government and public policy, and why you are applying to the Executive Fellowship Program.

1. Personal statement: In no more than two pages please share why you want to become a Fellow in the Executive Branch. Please describe yourself, your experiences and interest in public service, and what draws you specifically to our program. (2 pages max)
2. Policy prompt: Please write a one-page memo to a California Agency Secretary of your choice where you recommend a policy proposal to be implemented, and how. (1 page max)

Essays for the Judicial Fellowship

Judicial Fellowship Personal Statement: Please tell us about yourself. Discuss your background, any interests and hobbies, and your future education goals and career aspirations. How do your experiences, skills, and other attributes make you well qualified to serve as a Judicial Fellow? (One-page limit; typed, double-spaced; 12 pt. font)

Judicial Fellowship Program Statement Questions: Please answer the following questions. You must submit your answers in order and number your responses. Answers should be detailed and contain information not covered in your personal statement.

Program Statement Questions:

1. Visit [courts.ca.gov](https://www.courts.ca.gov) and <https://www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm> to learn more about California's judicial branch and trial court administration. What Judicial Council programs and trial court activities related to administration are of interest to you? Why?
(One-page limit; typed, double-spaced; 12 pt. font)
2. Please explain what benefits are likely to result from your participation in the Judicial Fellowship Program.
(One-page limit; typed, double-spaced; 12 pt. font)

California Senate Fellows Written Statement

Submit a personal statement, not to exceed three pages. The written statement is a vital part of your application packet and provides an opportunity to distinguish yourself from other excellent applicants. Your application will be strengthened with a carefully written and substantive personal statement. A hastily written statement with grammatical and/or typographical errors - or with mistaken references to other fellowship programs for which you are an applicant - will weaken your application. Be sure to proofread your statement for errors.

The selection panel is interested in learning about you, including your aspirations and why you are applying to the Senate Fellows program. Use your three pages to demonstrate your writing skills and to provide the selection committee with information that may not otherwise be apparent from your application. Do not simply repeat in narrative form the information that is already included in your application, and do not write a policy paper. Simply utilizing a one- or two-page statement prepared for another application is not the best use of this opportunity, and it will weaken your application. Written statements must be typed and double-spaced with a minimum font size of 12 points and margins of at least one inch. Your name should appear on the top of each page. Do not, however, include your social security number.

1. **Senate Fellowship Personal Statement:** The goal of the California Senate Fellows program is to cultivate leadership capacity and insight into the California legislative process. Please describe yourself and explain why you are applying to the Senate Fellowship Program. Tell us why your experience, skills, and other attributes make you well qualified to serve as a Senate Fellow. If selected, what are your immediate goals following the conclusion of the fellowship? Explain how your participation in the Senate Fellows program will help you achieve your goals. Also, please include in your personal statement a brief statement (no more than a short paragraph) about your political philosophy and how you would describe yourself politically.
(Two-page limit; typed, double-spaced; 12 pt. font).
2. **Senate Fellowship Policy Statement:** Please answer the following questions:
 - a. Please provide an example of a policy you feel is going right and explain why. What might you do to enhance this policy?
 - b. Please provide an example of a policy you feel is going wrong in California and explain why. What might you do to address the issue or problem?
(One-page limit; typed, double-spaced; 12 pt. font)