Program Eligibility

All applicants must:
- Be at least 20 years of age by September 1st of the fellowship year.
- Have a bachelor's degree by September 1st of the fellowship year and either a cumulative undergraduate GPA of 2.5 or higher or a GPA of 2.5 or higher in the last 60 (semester) or 90 (quarter) units.
- Demonstrated interest in public service and public policy.
- Be authorized to work in the United States for the duration of the program.

How to Apply

Applicants must submit the following by the February deadline:
- Completed online application at csus.edu/center/center-california-studies/capital-fellows
- College transcript(s)
- Personal statement and policy statement
- Three current, original letters of recommendation

Timeline

Early February ............................................................... Applications due*
Late April ....................................................................... Sacramento interviews
Early May ........................................................................ Los Angeles interviews
Mid to late May .............................................................. Candidates notified
Mid October ................................................................. Fellowship begins
Early September ........................................................... Fellowship ends

* Applications and specific dates and deadlines can be found online at csus.edu/center/center-california-studies/capital-fellows

For more information:

Brian K. Aguilar, Director
Executive Fellowship Program
Center for California Studies
California State University, Sacramento
(916) 278-6906; brian.aguilar@csus.edu
The fellowship is an incredible opportunity to launch a professional career in public service. As a fellow, you are surrounded by inspiration on all sides: from peers in the cohort who bring passion and fresh perspective, as well as seasoned leaders who bring expertise and a deep commitment to the public sector. The program offers an intensive immersion into the highest levels of state government operations. Fellows learn from mentors and teachers eager to train the next generation of leaders, as well as from the hands-on experiences and meaningful contributions they are able to make in just one year.

Meagan Tokunaga, 2015-16 Executive Fellow

The Executive Fellowship Program is a 10-month experiential education program that uniquely integrates high-level government work experience with academic and professional development. Executive Fellows are placed with a mentor in one of the many executive offices of California’s Executive Branch, which include the Office of the Governor, constitutional offices, cabinet level agencies, and departments. Executive Fellows function as full-time professional staff in these offices while meeting weekly for graduate seminars in Public Policy and Administration.

Recent college graduates and mid-career professionals of all academic disciplines, backgrounds, and levels of experience, who are interested in beginning a career in public service and policy, are encouraged to apply.

Professional Experience
The program provides fellows the opportunity to work with their mentor to design a unique fellowship experience within the context of their placement. Fellows have gained hands on experience and knowledge in: project management, public administration, communications, budgeting, legislation, public speaking, and subject matter expertise through policy analysis and implementation.

Academic Seminar
Executive Fellows attend a weekly graduate seminar instructed by a professor from the Public Policy and Administration department at Sacramento State. Our seminar helps provide an academic perspective on policy and administrative issues that are relevant to the public sector. Upon successful completion of the seminar and the Fellowship, fellows earn 6 graduate units in Public Policy and a Capital Fellows Graduate Certificate in Applied Policy and Government.

Program Stipend and Benefits
- Monthly stipend of $2,964 and health, dental and vision benefits
- Paid university enrollment and student fees for units in the Public Policy and Administration department
- Graduate Certificate in Applied Policy and Government
- Student loan deferment

Prior Placement Opportunities Include...
- Air Resources Board
- California Energy Commission
- California Department of Food and Agriculture
- California Natural Resources Agency
- Delta Stewardship Council
- Department of Business Oversight
- Department of Finance
- Department of Healthcare Services
- Fair Political Practices Commission
- Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development
- Governor’s Office of Planning and Research
- Office of the Governor
- State Treasurer’s Office

csus.edu/center/center-california-studies/capital-fellows