Donald M. Payne International Development Fellowship

Award Details

Emphasis: Academic; Experiential; Travel; Career Placement (USAID)

The USAID Donald M. Payne International Development Graduate Fellowship Program seeks to attract outstanding young people who are interested in pursuing careers in the Foreign Service of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). In 2015 the Payne Fellowship Program plans to award 5 fellowships valued at up to $45,000 annually for a two-year program. Payne Fellows will participate in two internships: the first, an internship working on the international issues in Washington, D.C., will occur in the summer after being selected and before the first year of graduate study and the second, an overseas internship in a USAID Mission, will take place during the summer between the first and second years of graduate study. Fellows must obtain 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, urban planning, etc. Fellows who successfully complete the Payne Program and USAID Foreign Service entry requirements will receive appointments as USAID Foreign Service Officers. Each Payne Fellow who obtains a master’s degree is committed to a minimum of three years of service as a USAID Foreign Service Officer.

Eligibility

− Applicants must U.S. citizens.
− Applicants must be seeking admission to enter graduate school in the fall of 2015 for a two-year program at a U.S. university. They can be in the senior year of their undergraduate studies, graduating by June 2016, 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.

Candidate Profile

Key Characteristics Sought by Review Committee

− 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 and academic achievement, demonstrate financial need.

Application

Date Application Available: 10/01/2015
Internal Application Due Date: 12/01/2015
Final Application Due Date: 01/01/2016