

New Journalist Fellowship Application

OVERVIEW

The New Journalist Program is run by the Center for Independent Media. The New Journalist Program aims to strengthen its network of online news sites on a state-by-state basis. A core component of the program is its Fellows, selected for their ability to advance original information via their journalism and blogging and their ability to influence the wider public debate.

OUR MISSION

The Center for Independent Media is a not-for-profit organization that fosters diversity of ideas in the national debate by educating and training people on the use of new communications technologies, such as the Internet, as an alternative publishing and distribution system to traditional broadcast and print media. The Center brings talented and progressive voices and ideas to the fore of our nation's discourse through its Fellowships, conferences, and research. Programs emphasize the importance of citizen-driven journalism as a critical founding principle of our nation, the positive role of democratically elected government in securing the common good and social welfare, and the continuing benefits of our founding culture of egalitarian government by the people, for the people.

The Center's Fellowships and programs seek to combine the best of traditional journalism (reporting, accuracy, and fairness) with the best of the blogs (critical thinking, personal voice, rapid response and reader involvement) to diversify the spectrum of ideas in the national debate.

ABOUT THE CENTER

The Center seeks to train a networked corps of skilled online journalists and bloggers producing original news and information that augments the current media landscape of newspapers, television, and radio, and influences coverage of issues critical to national debate. Additional information on the Center and its programs can be found at www.newjournalist.org

WHAT IS THE NEW JOURNALIST FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM?

The New Journalist Program looks to recruit highly skilled journalists and bloggers who produce original news reporting. Writers admitted to the program receive support, training, and resources with the aim of fostering the production of original news and information.

Applications are judged on the quality of their previous writings or blogging; the relevance of their professional background, both past and present; their dedication to the journalistic pursuit of informing the public, their willingness to adhere to the Program's jour-

nalistic code of ethics (see <http://www.newjournalist.org/ethics.html>), and their affinity for the Center's mission. Applicants will also be chosen based on their writings' focus and how their focus brings ideological diversity to the media.

WHAT ARE THE TERMS OF A CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT MEDIA FELLOWSHIP?

The term of the Fellowship is 3 months with the possibility of renewal once the term expires. Fellows receive:

- A stipend of \$4,500 to be paid over 3 months;
- Editorial mentorship from experts in the field of blogging and investigative journalism;
- Research tools such as Lexis Nexis and access to information databases;
- Legal information, advice and access to legal representation;
- Technical help and consulting;
- Networking opportunities with other bloggers, news media and newsmakers;
- Possible media booking and other promotion of the work produced; and
- Possible media training and/or newsroom training as needed.

In exchange, fellows are expected to:

- Produce 4-7 blog posts per week on average;
- Fulfill goals in original reporting, to be set on an individual basis;
- Originate news that impacts public debate;
- Adhere to the program's journalistic code of ethics;
- Participate in all training, meetings, and conferences; and
- Regularly submit a status report.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

All applications will be accepted on a rolling basis.

ELIGIBILITY

The New Journalist Program does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, age, lifestyle, religion, ethnic origin, disability or veteran status. To be eligible for the fellowship, individuals must be U.S. nationals or permanent residents of the U.S.

APPLICATION

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Please submit the following information:

- Full Name
- Address
- Daytime/Evening Phone
- Date of Birth
- Gender
- Ethnicity
- Employment Status
- Profession(s)
- Web site or Blog URL
- Email Address

Please include the following in your submission:

A CURRENT RESUME

Three examples of your work in blogging or journalism. If possible include at least one of blogging and one other type of writing. If you have an example of original reporting you have done, please add it here and denote it as such.

ESSAY QUESTIONS

Please respond to the following questions in your electronic submission with your writing samples and title each section with the corresponding question number.

1. What drives you/interests you about news reporting?
2. If you are a blogger, how does blogging relate to your professional ambitions?
3. If you are a print journalist, what about online journalism attracts you?
4. What subjects can you write about with authority and passion? If you had a regular journalistic “beat,” what would it be?
5. What national news source and/or bloggers do you read regularly?

APPLICATION SUBMISSION AND DEADLINE

Please submit all material in one electronic document by email to applications@newjournalist.org Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis.