

Shift Press Fellowship

What is the fellowship

The Shift Press Fellowship is a 10-week paid fellowship for eight Houston-area youth to develop journalistic and critical thinking skills. By the end of the fellowship, each fellow is expected to have contributed at least five written pieces. These pieces may come in the form of reporting, op-eds, and investigative journalism as well as more personal writing.

Eligibility

All high-school aged students currently residing in the Greater Houston area are eligible to apply for the fellowship.

Each fellow is expected to commit at least 25 hours each week to the fellowship. If the fellow is in school at the time, the time requirement will be relaxed. Fellows are required to meet Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for 90 minutes each week.

Yes, there is no required minimum GPA. No resume. No class ranking. No letter(s) of recommendation.

Who we are looking for

We are looking for Greater Houston area high school students who are passionate about this city! No journalistic experience? No problem. Our curriculum is focused on explaining the fundamentals of journalism and research. We are looking for people who are looking to grow.

Pay

Fellows will receive a \$1000 stipend for the 10 week fellowship.

Timeline

July 20, 2020: Application released
July 29, 2020, 11:59 CT: Application closes
July 31 - August 2, 2020: Interviews take place
Week of August 3, 2020: Fellows are notified
August 8, 2020: Fellowship starts
October 16, 2020: Fellowship ends

Tentative Program Schedule

- Monday: **Theory/Concept Day**
- Wednesday: **Newsroom Day**
- Friday: **Guest Speaker Day**

Week 1: Brave Space, Journalism of Attachment
Week 2: Journalism
Week 3: Root Cause Analysis
Week 4: Journalism Research (part 1)
Week 5: Journalism Research (part 2)
Week 6: Ethics in Journalism
Week 7-10: To be determined by the fellows

Where to apply

www.shift.press/fellowship

For questions regarding the fellowship

Email info@iehouston.org for all questions regarding the fellowship!

Shift Press Fellowship Application

Deadline: July 29th, 11:59PM CT

This document is meant to help applicants prepare their application answers off-site. Submit all application responses at www.shift.press/fellowship

If you have any questions, please email info@iehouston.org.

Demographic Information

Preferred Name (What should we call you?)

Pronouns (Select all that apply)

- she/her/hers
- he/him/his
- they/them/theirs
- Other

Email Address

Phone Number

Date of Birth

Zip Code

Do you plan to attend school in Fall 2020?

Race/Ethnicity

Gender Identity

Sexual Orientation

In the past 5 years, has your family ever qualified for free or reduced lunch?

Essay Questions

What is an issue that matters to you in your community, and why? (100 words minimum)

What are the spaces or environments you feel most powerful/valued in? What empowers you in those spaces? (100 words minimum)

Describe a barrier to getting youth voices heard in Houston. (100 words minimum)

What is something you've recently seen in the news? What are some questions you have about it? (100 words minimum)

Pitch something to us!

Tell us about a piece you would like to write. Don't stress too much about this—we just want to see what ideas you have right now. (100 words minimum.)

If you would rather submit an audio pitch, please write "audio" here and upload your pitch.

Keep pitches to under 60 seconds and under 2 MB. .mp3 and .aac file formats preferred.

Accessibility

Are you able to commit 15-25 hours a week to this fellowship for 10 weeks? (We will adjust your time commitment according to your school schedule.)

I have access to...

This will not affect your eligibility for the program. We will provide everything if necessary (except for the semi-private space, but we will work with you on that!)

- reliable WiFi connection
- a semi-private space
- a computer
- a smartphone
- headphones
- none of the above

Would you like to receive information about the Open Pitch.

The Open Pitch is a paid opportunity for high school and college aged folks to submit pitches about COVID-19's effects on their community and work with an editor to have their pieces published on Shift Press.