# Foreign Affairs Information Technology Fellowship

Supporting diplomacy in the Foreign Service

If you want to use your tech skills to make a difference, see the world, and experience different cultures, the Foreign Affairs IT (FAIT) Fellowship is the opportunity of a lifetime.

# The FAIT Fellowship

Funded by the U.S. Department of State, the **FAIT Fellowship** is a path to a career in the Foreign Service.

The Dept. of State seeks to attract top technology talent to the Foreign Service that reflects the diversity of the United States. The Fellowship program values varied backgrounds, including ethnic, racial, gender and geographic diversity.

# Diversity and Inclusion

- Diversity allows for a wide range of ideas and perspectives to find creative solutions.
- A diverse workforce in the Foreign Service is culturally aware, adaptable, well-rounded, and agile – and able to represent the best of the United States to nations around the world.

# FAIT Fellowship Facts

# What Does a FAIT Fellow Receive?

- Academic funding: up to **$37,500 annually** for tuition, room and board, books, mandatory fees and some travel expense, for the junior and senior years of undergraduate study, OR a two-year master's degree program in an IT-related field.

- Stipends, housing and travel allowances for **two summer internships**: A domestic internship in Washington, D.C. at the U.S. Department of State; an overseas internship at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate.

# What Does a FAIT Fellow Receive?

- **Personalized mentoring** throughout the two-year program.

- **Professional development** opportunities, including a 10-week Professional Development Series during the first summer internship.

- Upon successful completion of the program and the State Department's requirements, an **appointment** in the Foreign Service as an Information Management Specialist (with a minimum five-year commitment).

# Who is Eligible to Apply?

**To apply for the 2022 cohort, you must:**

- Be a U.S. citizen enrolled full-time in a degree program relevant to IT:
  - Entering the junior year in the fall 2022 or
  - Entering an IT-related master's degree program beginning in the fall of 2022
- Hold a minimum 3.2 GPA on a 4.0 scale at the time of the application, and maintain this GPA through your Fellowship.
- Be able to pass U.S. State Department medical and security clearances and suitability requirements.
- Be prepared to enter the Foreign Service in fall of 2024.

# What Majors are Eligible?

- Most majors in IT fields are eligible
- Online degree programs from accredited institutions are eligible
- Common majors include:
  - Computer science
  - Information technology
  - Cyber security
  - Computer engineering
  - IT services administration
  - Computer systems networking

If you are not sure if a degree program is eligible, email
[FAITFellowship@twc.edu](mailto:FAITFellowship@twc.edu) or call 202-238-7920

# Additional Eligibility Info

- The GPA requirement is a cumulative 3.2, including all courses taken at the college or university level.
- Community college applicants who will be entering their junior year at a 4-year institution starting in fall 2022 are encouraged to apply.
- Applicants planning to enter an IT-related master's program in fall 2022 do not have to be in an IT-related undergraduate program.
- Students must be enrolled full-time in the IT-related degree programs during spring and fall semesters.

# What is the Selection Process?

- Students are selected each year in a competitive selection process.
- Your online application is reviewed first, including the additional documents (such as, your personal statement, statement of financial need, letter of recommendation, and more),
- Finalists are selected for the in-person interview (travel assistance is provided) in the spring.
- Final selections are made at the conclusion of the interview process, and all finalists are notified by email within 24 hours.

# What is the Timeline for the Fellowship?

- Application Opens:      Fall 2021 (date will be announced end of summer)
- Application Closes:      January 31, 2022
- In-person Interviews:      Spring 2022
- Orientation:      June 2022
- Program Begins:      Fall 2022
- Domestic Internship:      Summer 2023
- Overseas Internship:      Summer 2024
- IMS Appointment:      Fall 2024

# More About the Foreign Service IMS

- You get to do what you love – a diversity of skills are needed at each post abroad!
- You will support and maintain hundreds of applications and provide IT services domestically and abroad, at any of the 270+ posts in nearly 200 countries.
- When overseas, you will receive paid housing, or a housing allowance, and paid education for dependent children in K-12.
- You will experience different cultures and see the world.

2017 FAIT Fellows display the flags of countries for their first posts as Foreign Service Information Management Specialists. *(Left to right:; Brady DeMeritt, Shaki Kar, Michael Moise, Rachel Chao, and Akvile Kiskis.)*

# Thank you

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