

ABOUT THE FELLOWS:

Selected through a highly competitive application and interview process, fellows represent the next generation of emerging innovation leaders (ages 25 to 35). The knowledge and interest of our innovation fellows will be expanded through short-term fellowships in a variety of American organizations, universities and state bodies across the United States that address innovation and entrepreneurship policy issues.

All fellows are fluent in English and have undergone full orientation programs preparing them for internships in the U.S.

**Program Dates:
April 28 – May 26, 2017**

Go to Russia or Belarus!

Fellowship hosts are eligible to apply for reciprocal visits to collaborate with program fellows in their home countries. Joint project proposals selected for funding will support the full cost of travel to the fellow's country.



Past Placements Have Included:

- Microsoft Ventures
- MassChallenge
- ASU SkySong
- University Technology Park at IIT



PROFESSIONAL FELLOWS

Host a State Department Fellow

American Councils for International Education is seeking to place talented young professionals in entrepreneurship- and innovation-themed one-month fellowships from **April 28 – May 26, 2017**.

The Fellows are a part of the Professional Fellows Program (PFP) with a focus on entrepreneurship and innovation. The Professional Fellows Program is sponsored by U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

The goal of the program is to:

- Strengthen understanding of the U.S. policies related to innovation and/or entrepreneurship
- Create partnerships between innovation focused institutions in the U.S. and Russia or Belarus
- Afford promising young professionals from Russia and Belarus the opportunity to gain practical experience in, and exposure to, United States policies related to innovation and entrepreneurship



To learn more about the program visit our website <http://professionalfellows.americancouncils.org>

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Frequently Asked Questions:



What is expected from a host organization? To appoint a dedicated “PFP Fellow Coordinator” who is a) willing to supervise the fellow and liaise weekly with the American Councils and b) who is interested in working with the fellow to develop his or her professional goals both in the United States and in his/her home country. American Councils will work with host organizations to develop meaningful and mutually beneficial fellowship experiences. Templates and guidance in this regard are already available.

What organizations hosted fellows in the past? Fellows are placed in various American organizations, universities and state bodies our past placements include IC² Institute (the University of Texas at Austin), MassChallenge, ASU SkySong, and Microsoft Ventures.

How are Fellows selected? They are selected through a competitive nationwide search that involves an extensive written application and in-person interviews with American Councils and U.S. Embassy staff.

Will Fellows speak English well enough to perform tasks such as writing memos or answering phone calls? Yes. While a Fellow’s English may not be perfect, it will meet strict standards that ensure success in a professional English speaking environment.

What kinds of tasks can a Fellow perform? Fellows can perform a wide variety of tasks, ranging from project specific activities to independent research. American Councils will work with hosts to design a meaningful and mutually beneficial program based on the Fellow’s background and the host’s needs.

How will Fellows be monitored? American Councils uses online surveys, email and telephone calls to monitor progress.

What are the obligations of a host? We’d love to have a Fellow, but cannot commit to doing a lot of extra work in order to do so. Hosting should not be seen as an obligation but rather a unique opportunity. Past hosts have enjoyed the international perspective Fellows brought to their workplace and commented that Fellows were able to successfully perform “real” work. American Councils will prepare Fellows so that they can “hit the ground running” and will help guide hosts in their preparation for the Fellow’s arrival.

What types of outbound projects will Fellows and Americans create? This is entirely up the Fellow and host. Past examples include a project on enhancing connections between Perm and Chicago Innovation ecosystems and entrepreneurship educational standard in Russian Universities.

What are the odds of being selected to travel outbound? We anticipate that not every host will be willing or able to participate in the outbound portion of the program, so the odds are very good. Dates have not yet been determined, but are tentatively scheduled to begin in Summer 2016 and continue throughout the fall.