

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants must be U.S. citizens.
- Applicants must be seeking admission to enter graduate school in the fall of 2017 for a two-year program at a U.S. university. They can be in the senior year of their undergraduate studies, graduating by June 2017, 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.
- Applicants are not required to be Howard University (HU) students or applying to HU for graduate school.

## SELECTION PROCESS

The Payne Program expects to award up to ten fellowships in 2017. A panel of individuals with experience in the Foreign Service and academia make selections for the Payne Fellowship.

The selection panel will consider candidates' academic work, statements of interest, letters of recommendation, 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 skills and academic achievement, demonstrate financial need.

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

**The application deadline is January 20, 2017.**

Information on the Payne Program, as well as the link to the online application, is available at [www.paynefellows.org](http://www.paynefellows.org).

**Questions about the Payne Fellowship Program can be addressed to:**

**The Donald M. Payne International Development Fellowship Program  
Ralph J. Bunche International Affairs Center  
Howard University**

**2218 6<sup>th</sup> St. NW, Washington, DC 20059 202-806-5952,  
[paynefellows@howard.edu](mailto:paynefellows@howard.edu)**



2016 Payne Fellows, Photographer: MaRaina Montgomery

## THE WORK OF THE USAID FOREIGN SERVICE

USAID extends help from the American people to achieve results for the poorest and most vulnerable around the world. Foreign Service Officers (FSOs) are the core staff of USAID's overseas offices (called "missions") and provide shape and forward momentum to country and regional programs. FSOs apply both technical knowledge and a variety of program design, management and evaluation expertise to ensure that foreign assistance programs achieve U.S. foreign policy objectives and meet the needs of partners in a cost effective manner.

USAID's Foreign Service Officers work directly with the governments and people of the countries in which we serve and collaborate with a range of development agencies and non-governmental partners (e.g. private sector entities, universities and associations, community and non-profit organizations) to develop and carry out programs that meet assistance objectives.

USAID Foreign Service Officers work on the front lines of some of the most pressing global challenges of our times, including poverty, hunger, injustice, disease, environmental degradation, climate change, conflict and violent extremism. They are part of a corps of officers who have worked for more than fifty years to make lasting improvements to the lives of millions of people around the globe. USAID Foreign Service Officers are stationed in Washington and in more than 75 countries in five regions worldwide – Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Europe and Eurasia, Asia and the Pacific, and the Middle East. They work alongside colleagues from other U.S. government agencies to achieve our country's foreign policy objectives in democracy and governance, economic growth and trade, peace and security, education and health, conflict mitigation and humanitarian response.



HOWARD  
UNIVERSITY

**DONALD M. PAYNE**  
**INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
FELLOWSHIP**

[paynefellows.org](http://paynefellows.org)



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2015 Payne Fellows during overseas USAID mission internships (clockwise), LeJeanne Claye (Tanzania), Jeanne Choquehuanca (Uganda), Keisha Herbert (Liberia), Mavin Crespín-Gamez (South Africa), Berhan Hagos (Nigeria).



Payne Fellows at their respective graduate schools: University of California, Berkeley, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Columbia University, Harvard University, University of Maryland, College Park, and others.

## A WORLD IS WAITING FOR YOU

Are you interested in creating a more secure, healthy and prosperous world through engagement in international development work? Do you want to work on behalf of the American people to provide a better future to people around the world? The Foreign Service of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) provides a uniquely rewarding career of global service.

On March 2, 2012 USAID announced the launch of a new fellowship program designed to attract outstanding young people to careers in the USAID Foreign Service. The Donald M. Payne International Development Fellowship Program seeks to support individuals interested in addressing the most pressing global development challenges by serving as Foreign Service Officers in USAID. The Program is committed to promoting a positive U.S. presence in the world that reflects the strength and diversity of America. It encourages the application of members of minority groups who have historically been underrepresented in development careers and those with financial need. The fellowship is named in honor of longtime development champion, the late Congressman Donald M. Payne.

The Payne Fellowship provides up to \$93,000 in support for two years of graduate studies, internships, mentoring, and professional development activities, leading to a career in the USAID Foreign Service.

## PAYNE DEVELOPMENT FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM ELEMENTS

**Fellowships for Graduate Studies** In 2017 the Payne Fellowship Program plans to award up to ten fellowships valued at up to \$46,500 annually for a two-year program. The award includes up to \$21,500 per year toward tuition and mandatory fees for completion of a two-year master's degree at a U.S. institution; a \$15,000 stipend for each academic year for room, board, books and other education-related expenses; and up to \$10,000 per year in stipend, housing, transportation, and related expenses for summer internships. At the conclusion of two years of study, the Payne Fellow is expected to obtain a degree in international development or another area of relevance to the work of the USAID Foreign Service at a U.S. graduate or professional school approved by the Payne Program. Fellows who successfully complete the Payne Program and USAID Foreign Service entry requirements will receive appointments as Foreign Service Officers with the U.S. Agency for International Development.

**Orientation** New Payne Fellows will participate in an orientation at Howard University in May, shortly after their selection. The purposes of this orientation are to familiarize the Fellows with all aspects of the fellowship and to enhance their understanding of, and skills for, international development careers.

**Two Summer Internships** Payne Fellows will participate in two internships. The first, an internship working in Washington, DC with USAID or on Capitol Hill, will occur in the summer after being selected and before the first year of graduate study. The second will be an overseas internship in a USAID Mission that takes place during the summer between the first and second years of graduate study. The program will provide stipends, housing, and transportation.

**Mentoring** Each Fellow will receive mentoring throughout the duration of the fellowship as well as during his/her early employment at USAID.

**Curriculum** 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, agriculture, environmental sciences, public or global health, or urban planning at a graduate or professional school approved by the Payne Program. Studies in law do not satisfy this requirement. Applicants apply to two-year graduate programs at U.S. universities simultaneously with their application to the Payne Program.

**Employment/Obligations** 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 (3) years of service as a USAID Foreign Service Officer. Candidates who do not successfully complete the Payne Program and the subsequent three (3) year service obligation may be subject to a reimbursement obligation.



At their swearing in ceremony, 2014 Payne Fellows Krina Patel, Tracey Lam, Emma Din, Taylor Adams, Sofia Quesada, and Anthony Medeiros on July 11th, 2016. 2016 Payne Fellows, Brittany Thomas, Jolisa Brooks, Kayden Hoang Bui, Stephanie Ullrich, Suegatha Kai-Rennie, Mariela Medina Castellanos, and Ellexis Chapman were there in support.