

# CONGRESSIONAL FELLOWSHIPS ON WOMEN & PUBLIC POLICY

*Want to master public policy on Capitol Hill?*  
Apply **NOW** for January – July 2027

**WHY A CONGRESSIONAL FELLOWSHIP ON WOMEN AND PUBLIC POLICY?** The fellowships are designed to train potential leaders in public policy formation to examine issues from the perspective, experiences, and needs of women. Administered by the Women's Congressional Policy Institute (WCPI), a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization located in Washington, DC, this program is unique—it is the only graduate fellowship program on Capitol Hill focused on women.

**WHAT DOES A FELLOW DO?** Fellows work 40 hours each week in a congressional office as a legislative assistant on policy issues affecting women. Fellows meet weekly for issue seminars directed by the WCPI staff. Orientation for the Class of 2026 was held in January 2026; office placement started at the end of that month. The program runs until the end of July 2026. The 2027 schedule will be similar.

**WHO IS ELIGIBLE?** Students who currently are enrolled in a graduate program, **or** who have completed such a program within two years of the fellowship start date (January 2027) are eligible. ***Applicants must have completed at least nine hours of graduate coursework before applying*** and display serious interest in research and policymaking relevant to issues of importance to women.

**WHAT ARE THE SELECTION CRITERIA?** Fellows are selected on the basis of academic competence as well as demonstrated interest in the public policy process. They must be articulate and adaptable and have strong writing skills. Fellows may come from virtually any field. WCPI promotes equal opportunity and welcomes qualified applicants of all backgrounds and experiences. WCPI does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, political affiliation, disability, military or veteran status, or any status in

any group protected by state or local laws. Fellows must be legally eligible to work in the United States.

**WHAT IS THE AWARD?** Fellows will receive a stipend of approximately \$4,400 gross per month for seven months (January-July). An additional sum of \$1,000 is provided for the purchase of health insurance. Fellows are responsible for transportation to and from Washington, and for finding their own living arrangements.

The 2026 Fellowships were made possible by grants from Novartis, PepsiCo, the Kahn Education Foundation, and the North America Taiwanese Women's Association, and many [individual contributions](#), including a number from former fellows.

**APPLICATION PROCESS:** The application and supporting materials are due on Friday, July 10, 2026.

## **CLASS OF 2026 FELLOWS**



*Julia Mattingly and Avika Dhillon  
are mastering public policymaking on Capitol Hill.*