

# **Evaluation Criteria**

## *For Fellowship Applications*

The following are the criteria used by selection committees to evaluate fellowship applications:

**Commitment to Public Service:** Does the applicant demonstrate previous involvement with some type of community service and/or advocacy activities? Other factors such as course work or focus of work experience can also indicate such a commitment to social change.

**Relevant Background/Experience:** Does the applicant possess the necessary background, skills, and/or qualifications for the program? This can be based on past work and volunteer experience, internships, involvement in campus organizations, activities and coursework.

**Leadership Experience/Potential:** Has the applicant demonstrated leadership and/or initiative and motivation through involvement in activities, work, academics, etc.?

**Value of Program for Student:** Will the fellowship experience complement the applicant's academic background? Will the opportunity provide a chance for the student to explore possible career fields? Did the student express this well in their personal statement?

**Writing Skills:** Does the applicant represent him/herself well through words, both in the personal statement and resume?

**Overall quality of personal statement & application materials:** Is the application well written? Does the applicant build a case for why he/she wants to be a Fellow? Does the applicant take time to think through and effectively address the questions? Were all materials received on time?

**Other supporting documents such as letters of recommendation, transcripts, project placement form (if applicable):** How strong are the letters of recommendation? Did the candidate select people who know them well and could speak to their strengths and relevant qualifications? How strong is the candidate's overall academic record? If applicable, do the student and the organization agree on what the summer work will entail?