

# 2019 2020 ASPEN PRESIDENTIAL FELLOWSHIP

The Aspen Presidential Fellowship for Community College Excellence is developing a cadre of exceptional leaders who can transform community colleges to achieve higher levels of student success while maintaining broad access. Each year, Aspen engages a select group of up to 40 fellows for this intensive, one-year, applied executive leadership program, delivered in collaboration with the Stanford Educational Leadership Initiative.



THE ASPEN INSTITUTE  
COLLEGE EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

**Stanford**

Educational Leadership  
Initiative

THROUGHOUT THE PROGRAM, FELLOWS WILL EXPLORE THREE BROAD THEMES:

**1 LEADING FOR IMPACT**

Defining and assessing student success in multiple domains: learning, completion, transfer and bachelor's attainment, labor market, and equity in access and outcomes.

**2 LEADING TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE**

Transforming institutional culture and core practices to deeply and sustainably improve student success.

**3 PARTNERING FOR COLLECTIVE ACTION**

Implementing new structures with external partners—including K-12 schools, universities, community-based organizations, and employers—to improve student success.

# FEATURES OF THE FELLOWSHIP

The Aspen Presidential Fellowship provides a perspective and skillset that equips Fellows to become innovative and highly effective leaders of community colleges that achieve exceptional results for students and communities. Fellows will:

- Work with national leaders who are shaping and implementing, at scale, best practices for community college success
- Build a network of forward-thinking peers to support and challenge one another in the pursuit of broad change
- Apply grounded and innovative strategies to meet student success challenges in their home colleges
- Be recognized and promoted as highly promising candidates for future presidencies

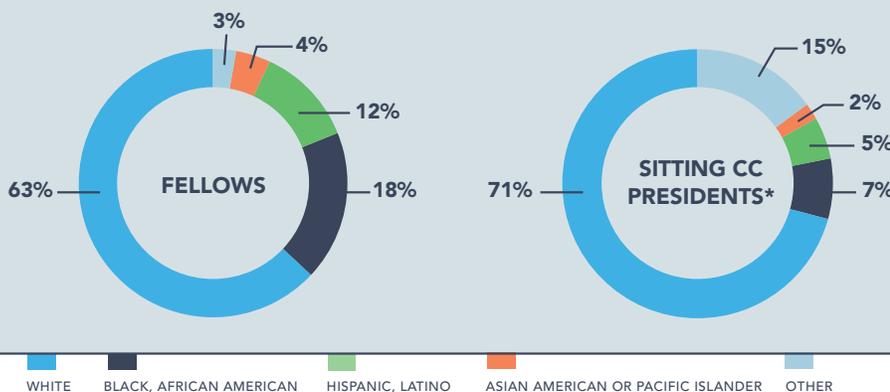
The year-long Fellowship includes:

Three residential seminars led by Aspen Institute and Stanford University faculty, as well as some of the nation's top community college professionals and higher education experts. Each of the three four-day sessions includes presentations of groundbreaking research, extensive hands-on time working in small groups with peers and mentors, and the opportunity to learn from veteran college leaders.

A capstone project that offers participants a structured process, with feedback from peers and mentors, for crafting and extending their own distinct presidential perspective on community college student success. Culminating in a presentation to peers and mentors at the conclusion of the Fellowship, the capstone project leads participants through rigorous analysis of data and inquiry into the student experience, the development and refinement of a vision for community college excellence, and the advancement of their ability to communicate and build urgency around a vision for transformational change.

Mentorship by an exceptional, nationally recognized current or former community college president who engages participants in a dynamic exchange of ideas and helps to draw connections across the seminars, capstone project, and participants' own professional experiences. Through both formal and informal mechanisms, mentors offer support and guidance to fellows throughout the year, including through a series of interactive webinars on topics related to leading change to improve student success.

## FELLOWS VS. SITTING COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESIDENTS



\* <http://www.aacc.nche.edu/AboutCC/Trends/Documents/CEOCCompensationResearchBrief.pdf>

Applicants should aspire to enter a presidency within five years of completing the fellowship. Ideal candidates are motivated by the potential of community colleges to impact the lives of students and to grow the health and vitality of communities. Aspen Fellows aspire to be transformational community college presidents—those who will lead their institutions to achieve significant improvements in student outcomes and greater equity in educational access and success. They are willing to take risks to lead transformational change and are strategic, reform-minded thinkers and innovators.

# WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

“The Fellowship transformed my way of thinking about student success and leadership of community colleges. I better understand the role of the president and the attributes that make presidents successful. There is an increased sense of urgency in me about the need for transformational leadership to drive the equity agenda.”

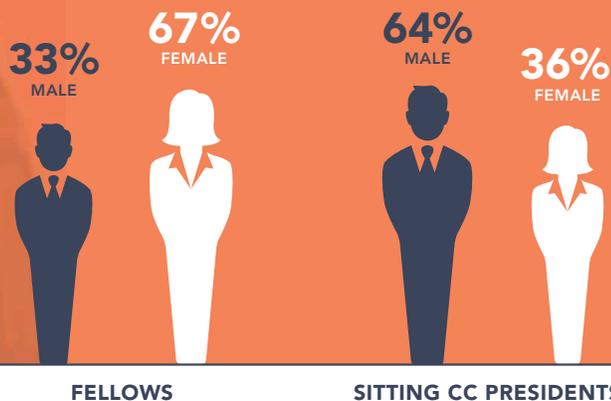
The Aspen Fellowship program is committed to identifying and developing talented leaders who reflect the diversity of the communities and students that the nations’ community colleges serve. We strongly encourage applicants from diverse backgrounds and from all groups representative of varying race and ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, nationality, culture, religion, and physical abilities. We also encourage applicants from a variety of professional backgrounds, including:

CAMPUS PRESIDENTS, PROVOSTS, OR VICE PRESIDENTS AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SENIOR ADMINISTRATORS IN OTHER HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS OR K-12 SYSTEMS

EXECUTIVES FROM OUTSIDE OF EDUCATION WITH DEEP COMMITMENT TO ENSURING STUDENTS’ SUCCESS

## FELLOWS VS. SITTING COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESIDENTS



\* [http://www.aacc.nche.edu/Publications/datapoints/Documents/LeadershipGap\\_11%2012%2014.pdf](http://www.aacc.nche.edu/Publications/datapoints/Documents/LeadershipGap_11%2012%2014.pdf)



## FELLOWSHIP INFORMATION

### PROGRAM DATES

Residential seminars of four days each will be held in late July 2019, mid-November 2019, and early April 2020. Exact dates are yet to be determined.

### FELLOWSHIP FEES

The cost of the Fellowship is \$5,000, which includes lodging and onsite meals during each seminar. Fellows will be responsible for paying for and arranging their own travel to/from seminars. Need-based financial aid is available to offset the Fellowship fee and travel costs; applications are available after selection.

### HOW TO APPLY OR NOMINATE A FELLOWSHIP CANDIDATE

Online applications will be available September 28, 2018, and require short essays, an updated resume, and a letter of support from your institution's president. Please visit our website at [www.aspeninstitute.org/pres-fellowship](http://www.aspeninstitute.org/pres-fellowship).

Aspen strongly encourages nominations of exceptional leaders who are well positioned to benefit from the Fellowship. Nominated candidates will be contacted directly and encouraged to apply. To nominate a candidate, please visit [higher.ed.aspeninstitute.org/apply-for-the-2019-2020-cohort/](http://higher.ed.aspeninstitute.org/apply-for-the-2019-2020-cohort/).

## APPLICATION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 14, 2018

To learn more, visit [higher.ed.aspeninstitute.org](http://higher.ed.aspeninstitute.org) or contact us at [CEP.Fellowship@aspeninstitute.org](mailto:CEP.Fellowship@aspeninstitute.org).

**THE ASPEN PRESIDENTIAL FELLOWSHIP HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE BY:** The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Carnegie Corporation of New York, The Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation, College Futures Foundation, ECMC Foundation, Greater Texas Foundation, the Joyce Foundation, and the Kresge Foundation.

“Thank you for selecting me for this incredible experience. It was by far one of the most profound professional development opportunities I’ve ever had—and at this stage of my career is in perfect timing. I am so proud to be a Fellowship alum.”