



2021 KAGC Congressional Fellowship Program

Overview

Undergraduate students serve in a congressional office in Washington, D.C. for 10 weeks in summer 2021. While students take an unpaid position, they will receive a stipend up to \$2,000 from KAGC. During their service, the Fellows will assist on issues related to Korea and the Korean American community; however, the scope of service is not limited to any one subject. Through this opportunity, students will gain a first-hand experience in public service, policy-making process, and civic engagement.

Duration

Tuesday, May 25th – Friday, July 30th (10 weeks)*

**Duration is subject to each congressional office's policy.*

Benefits

- Up to \$2,000 stipend for the duration of the summer Fellowship; and
- Eligibility to receive academic credit at the student's college or university (subject to institution's policy)

Eligibility

- Active full-time enrollment in a university pursuing an undergraduate degree, or recent graduation from college within 12 months of program application;
- Completion of at least 15 credits towards an undergraduate degree; and
- Legal authorization to work in the United States for the duration of the program.

Participation Requirement

- Full attendance to education sessions before, during, and after the program;
- Attendance to the 2021 KAGC National Conference (date to be determined); and
- Completion of interview after successful completion of the program.

Application Requirement

It is highly recommended that you read the entire application packet before proceeding to fill in the information. Please submit all of the following components to info@kagc.us by 5pm, Friday, March 26th, 2021.

- Complete application form
- Essays #1, #2, and #3
- Official transcript issued within the past 90 days
- 1 letter of recommendation from a faculty member
- 1 letter of recommendation from any person of applicant's choice
- Resume

Selection Process

1. Students submit an application and two letters of recommendation.
2. After a preliminary screening process, each applicant participates in a phone interview with KAGC.
3. Based on preference and fit, KAGC relays 2 to 3 candidates to each participating congressional office.
4. The participating congressional office announces the final decision.

Depending on the circumstances, additional interviews may be required.

Selection Criteria

- Scholastic achievement
- Communication and leadership skills
- Community service experience and contribution
- Demonstrated interest in public service, public policy, and civic leadership
- Quality of application and interview performance
- District residency (if applicable)

2021 KAGC Congressional Fellowship is open to all students interested in the mission of KAGC and its programs, regardless of race, color, religion, sex or national origin.



Korean American Grassroots Conference (KAGC) is a non-partisan, not-for-profit organization dedicated to uplifting the Korean American community's voice through active civic and electoral participation. As the largest nationwide network of Korean American voters, KAGC engages over 30 community organizations across the nation to develop and implement civic education programs and voter registration initiatives throughout the year.

Every summer since 2014, KAGC draws 600 community leaders from over 30 states to its national conference in Washington, D.C. through which the attendees train their skills in grassroots action, develop civic education programs for local community, and deliver the community's policy priorities directly to their representatives in Congress over three days.

The conference also draws members of Congress who join their constituents in celebration of efforts for active civic engagement and of their support for U.S.-Korea partnership. The 2019 KAGC was joined by 600 attendees from 30 states, representing 110 congressional districts, as well as several members of Congress from both sides of the aisle. Over the past six years, a total of 2 Senators and 37 Representatives has joined KAGC.

KAGC U is the collegiate arm of the Conference, whose goal it is to help students lead civic engagement initiatives both on and off the campus. Since 2016, over 1,500 students from 140 universities have attended education seminars, hosted voter registration drives, and led community education efforts through KAGC U. The 2019 national conference drew 200 students from 59 universities in 24 states.



Application for 2021 KAGC Congressional Fellowship Program

Full Name (As appeared on official ID) Preferred Name (if different from official)

Gender Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)

Home Address (Street, City, State, Zip)

On-Campus Mailing Address (Street, City, State, Zip)

Email Address Cell Phone Number

School Year / Grade Level GPA (of 4.0)

Major(s) & Minor(s)

Organizations and extracurricular activities you are involved with. (List those you serve in the leadership first):

Check the KAGC U events you have been part of thus far:

- 2016 KAGC U Leadership Summit
- 2016 KAGC U National Conference
- 2016 KAGC U Voter Registration Challenge
- 2017 KAGC U Leadership Summit
- 2017 KAGC U West Coast
- 2017 KAGC U National Conference
- 2017 KAGC U Voter Registration Challenge
- 2018 KAGC U Leadership Summit
- 2018 KAGC National Conference
- 2019 KAGC U Leadership Summit
- 2019 KAGC National Conference
- 2019 KAGC U Voter Registration Challenge
- 2020 KAGC U Leadership Summit
- On-Campus Event (List which school, exact date, and in what capacity your participation was):
- Other:

Essay #1: Please respond to the following prompt in 500 words.

How does your previous experience make you a good candidate for this program? What do you hope to learn from this opportunity and how do you plan on using it to contribute to our community?

Essay #2: Please respond to one of the following questions in 250 words.

- A) *Why is it important to empower the Korean American community?*
- B) *What is the most significant barrier between the Korean American community and its active participation in public affairs (political, civic or otherwise)?*
- C) *In your view, what is the most significant issue in the Korean American community today?*
- D) *What are the most significant events in the modern American history in relation to the Korean American community today?*

Essay #3: Please respond to the following question in 250 words.

Explain which congressional office you hope to be assigned and why. Please keep in mind that not every applicant is matched with the member or committee of their preference; however the vision, perspectives, and other information that you share about yourself in this section will be used to help determine the fit for your potential assignment.