The Coverdell Peace Corps Fellows/USA Program at
the University of Missouri-Kansas City
Henry W. Bloch School of Management
Department of Public Affairs

The Paul D. Coverdell Fellows Program is a two-year graduate fellowship program that offers financial assistance to returned Peace Corps Volunteers. Since the inception of the Coverdell Fellows Program, nearly 4,000 returned Volunteers have participated in the program.

Fellowship Financial Benefits (for two years)
- Fellows will receive six credit hours of tuition remission per regular semester (fall and spring)
- $1,000 for educational supplies, textbooks
- The fellowship stipend is $9,000* per student per year distributed as follows:
  - $3,000 Fall semester: $12 per hour for 20 hours per week for 15 weeks
  - $3,000 Spring semester: $12 per hour for 20 hours per week for 15 weeks
  - $3,000 Summer semester: *$12 per hour for 30 hours per week for 10 weeks, when funds are available

Fellowship Academic and Professional Benefits
- Further education and professional careers by obtaining a Master Degree in Public Administration
- Establish connections with community leaders and organizations
- Gain strong knowledge and skills about local community building through urban development, nonprofit administration, and health administration
- Learn advanced best practice models and applications
- Access to earn certification in community economic development and fund raising
- Access professional development programs (i.e. trainings, academic conferences, luncheons)

UMKC’s Peace Corps Fellows Academic Program
- Master of Public Administration (General or Emphasis in Urban Administration, Nonprofit Management, or Health Services Administration)

Partner Agencies in Kansas City
- Midwest Center for Nonprofit Leadership
- Literacy Kansas City
- Kansas City Neighborhood Alliance
- American Public Square
- El Centro, Inc.
- Don Bosco Center
- Midwest Center for Nonprofit Leadership
- Sam Rogers Health Clinic
- Kansas City Free Health Clinic

University Support for Peace Corps Fellows
Fellows will be monitored and supported by a program administrator, their academic advisor, and agency supervisors. Some of the support will include:
• Academic advising
• Professional development and networking opportunities
• Mentorship with a professional in your field of study
• Career center services

Application and Selection Process

University Application
- UMKC Application for Admission (www.umkc.edu/apply)
- Official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended
- An official General Record Exam (GRE) score

Fellow Application
- Applicants must demonstrate a record of academic achievement, community involvement, and professional excellence
- Completed Peace Corps Description of Service (DOS)
- Completed application form (attached)
- A personal statement and essay regarding your involvement and interests in community building
- 3 Letters of Reference

Due Dates
- Applications are received should be submitted by early summer for a fall semester start.
- A selection committee of the Department of Public Affairs will review and judge applications. Award winners will be announced before the beginning of the semester to which the student is applying.
The Coverdell Peace Corps Fellows/USA FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION

Directions: Please complete the following application and mail to the Dept. of Public Affairs: University of Missouri-Kansas City, Bloch School of Management, 305 Bloch, 5110 Cherry Street, Kansas City, MO 64110-2499.

1. Name

______________________________________________________________________________________________

Last     First    Middle

2. Address

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

3. Telephone Number __________________________ Social Security Number _______________________

4. Please indicate below by check-mark the ethnic background that you identify with:

_____American Indian/Native Alaskan    _____Asian or Pacific Islander    _____African-American

_____Hispanic    _____Caucasian    _____Other __________________________

5. Emphasis Area if any (circle):  Urban Administration    Nonprofit Management    Health Services Administration

6. Semester and year you are applying for this fellowship ___________________________

7. Are you planning to apply or have you applied for Financial Aid?  _____ Yes  _____ No

8. List academic honors, elected honorary positions, scholarships, fellowships, publications, professional society memberships, other awards:

_________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________

9. References. List the names, phone numbers, and email addresses of three persons acquainted with your academic and professional work that you are asking to complete recommendation forms:

_________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________

10. On a separate page, please provide a personal statement which includes your present employment; interest in pursuing this master’s degree program; personal goals while in the program; future career plans; and your involvement and interest in community building. Please type this statement and attach it to the application.
I certify that the foregoing statements and all other information submitted by me in connection with this application are true and correct. I understand that the falsification or deliberate omission of information is grounds for rejection of the application.

________________________________________  ________________________________________________________
Date Signed      Applicant's Signature

The Board of Curators and the University of Missouri-Kansas City are committed to the policy that there shall be no discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, disability, or Vietnam era veteran status. The Vice Provost for Affirmative Action is responsible for all relevant programs and may be contacted at (816) 235-1323. Office hours are 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, Room 356 of the Administrative Center, 5115 Oak Street.

NOTE: Admission to the Bloch School is required before your application is valid for this fellowship.
Applicant's Name ____________________________________________  SS# __________________________

To the applicant: This form should be given to people who are able to comment on your qualifications for the fellowship. You should use a mix of both academic and professional references for your recommendations. For the convenience of the persons making the recommendation, you should include a stamped envelope addressed to Dept. of Public Affairs: University of Missouri-Kansas City, Bloch School of Management, 305 Bloch, 5110 Cherry Street, Kansas City, MO 64110-2499.

Under the Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, students are entitled to review their records, including letters of recommendation. However, those writing recommendations and those assessing recommendations may attach more significance to them if it is known that the recommendations will remain confidential. It is your option to waive your right to access to these recommendations. Please mark the appropriate phrase below, indicating your choice of option, and sign your name.

_____ I waive my right to review of this recommendation.

_____ I do not waive my right to review of this recommendation.

Date ____________  Applicant's Signature __________________________________________________________

RECOMMENDATION

Name of reference (print) ____________________________________________  Title ___________________

Institution or affiliation __________________________________________________________________________

1. I have known the applicant for ______ years and ______ months.

2. I know the applicant: ______Slightly ______  Fairly Well ______  Very Well.

3. I have known the applicant in the following capacity:
   _____ Undergraduate Student  _____ Graduate Student  _____ Advisee
   _____ Teaching/Research Assistant  _____ Employee  _____ Other (specify)

4. Please rate the applicant on the following characteristics listed from low (1) to superior (5).
   Oral Communication Skills   _____1 _____2 _____3 _____4 _____5 _____N/A
   Written Communication Skills _____1 _____2 _____3 _____4 _____5 _____N/A
   Leadership Ability   _____1 _____2 _____3 _____4 _____5 _____N/A
   Initiative      _____1 _____2 _____3 _____4 _____5 _____N/A
5. Indicate the strength of your overall endorsement of the applicant.

   _____ Recommend With Reservation   _____ Recommend   _____ Highly Recommend

6. Feel free to elaborate on the above information or include any information that you believe is pertinent to the selection of this applicant as a scholarship recipient.

Signature of reference
___________________________________________________________________________

Thank you for completing this form. If no envelope has been attached, please send this recommendation to: University of Missouri-Kansas City, Bloch School of Management, 305 Bloch, 5110 Cherry Street, Kansas City, MO 64110-2499 or email to domkeb@umkc.edu.