

2016 Segal Fellows Citizen Leaders Summer Internships

References Overview

Applicant: Please give this page to those writing your letters of recommendation or acting as a reference.

Brief Summary of the Eli J. Segal Citizen Leadership Program

The Eli J. Segal Citizen Leadership Program was established at Brandeis University in 2007, to honor and continue the work of Eli J. Segal, who is best known for his leadership in developing AmeriCorps and Welfare-to-Work initiatives in the Clinton Administration and for his talent for inspiring and mentoring young people. During Eli's memorial, President Clinton explained that if someone wanted something done during his administration, they went to Eli. The Segal Program commemorates his legacy of "getting things done" by advancing citizen engagement, and continuing his commitment to developing new generations of citizen leaders.

The mission of the Segal Program is to encourage and enable emerging leaders to engage in a lifetime of citizen leadership.

The Program is designed to make the experience of being a Segal Fellow a recognized and valued credential – signifying important citizen leadership core competencies, developmental experiences, and the support of a network of talented people dedicated to Segal Fellows success.

The Segal Citizen Leadership Network includes nearly 80 Segal Fellows, ranging in age from early twenties to mid-forties, who live in 17 states and 3 continents who support each other in their efforts to advance social justice. Segal Fellows come into the Program through Brandeis University, the Corporation for National and Community Service's AmeriCorps Alums and City Year. The Network also includes many of the Segal Founders who helped to create and sustain the Segal Program as well as others who have joined to contribute expertise and resources to support the development of the next generation of citizen leaders. Segal Fellows assume leadership roles within the Segal Program to help ensure the Program is continuously improving and being sustained for future generations of Segal Fellows. The Segal Network provides new Segal Fellows with mentors to assist in their leadership development – these mentors are both Segal Fellows and Founders or Friends who have expertise to share, providing an opportunity to give back by supporting others in much the same way that Eli Segal did for so many.

Brandeis Segal Fellows are selected through a highly competitive process after which they complete a rigorous experiential learning opportunity through a citizen leader summer internship at private, nonprofit and public U.S. organizations committed to making a difference. Each Brandeis Segal Fellow is supported by a \$3,500 stipend for undergraduate students and \$5,000 stipend for Master's in Public Policy students. Citizen leader summer internship stipends are being supported by a fund established by friends and family of Eli J. Segal. They are meant to support up to six Brandeis undergraduate students and Master's in Public Policy students from the Heller School for Social Policy and Management pursuing meaningful citizen leadership summer internships at organizations that are committed to working for the common good and exemplify the characteristics of citizen leadership, public and community service, civic engagement, or social entrepreneurship.

Written Letter of Recommendation Instructions

In your recommendation, please indicate how you know the applicant and provide an evaluation of his/her work, maturity, sense of purpose, and leadership potential. We are looking for people who are committed to actively working for the common good and being a citizen leader. We are particularly looking for mature students who can prioritize effectively, follow through with commitments and who would be excellent ambassadors of Brandeis and the Eli J. Segal legacy of commitment to social justice and “getting things done”. Please review the *Eli J. Segal Citizen Leadership Program Core Competencies* below and comment on how the applicant has demonstrated their capacity or areas for growth.

Both concrete examples and general impressions/evaluations are useful to the Selection Committee. When applicable, also comment on the applicant’s ability to flourish in a self-directed, professional work environment. Recommendations should include the applicant’s name and your name on each page. They should be no longer than 2 pages.

Your recommendation can be mailed, emailed or faxed directly to the Program Director, Tam Emerson. Alternatively, if you choose to send your letter to the applicant, please put it in a sealed and signed envelope, to be submitted by the student as part of a complete application package. As noted above, the deadline for receipt of completed applications is **3 p.m. (EST), Tuesday, Dec. 1st**.

Questions or Recommendations Submissions can be sent to:

Tam Emerson, *Program Director, Eli J. Segal Citizen Leadership Program*

- **Email:** temerson@brandeis.edu
- **Campus Mail:** MS 035
- **In Person:** Heller-Brown Building, 3rd Floor, Office 345
- **Official Mail:** 415 South Street, MS 035, Waltham, MA 02453
- **Phone:** 781-736-3933

ELI J. SEGAL CITIZEN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM CORE COMPETENCIES

Segal Citizen Leaders:

- Understand the background and history of social policy, social movements, and efforts to promote social justice, citizenship and democracy, and then apply this **knowledge** when seeking solutions to contemporary social issues and problems;
- Are “citizens of the world” who will **lead** social change for the common good in work and volunteer settings. In so doing they understand principles of effective leadership, and that varying contexts, resources, and desired outcomes will demand a variety of approaches to leadership;
- Have visionary **goals** for social change, recognize that social capital is necessary for social change, and that creative collaboration, relationship-building, networking, team-building, coalition-building and community organizing are ways to build social capital;
- Are able to **communicate** and collaborate with multiple **diverse, multicultural constituencies** and know that successful change efforts must understand the role of privilege in American society and honor diversity of thought, lessons, and individuals;
- Know that change requires a range of **resources** including financial;
- Understand that **evaluation** is a necessary strategy to measure and manage progress toward goals. Citizen leaders know that evaluation is a tool for social justice, one that can help to give marginalized groups a voice, and that can both prove and improve the effectiveness of change efforts;
- **Mentor** the next generation of citizen leaders.