

2023 Stevens Initiative Alumni Fellowship

Application

All components of the application are required and must be completed by the deadline for the application to be considered complete and eligible for selection. Please follow all instructions below. At any point you can click the "Save and Continue Editing" button at the bottom to save your progress and return to the application later.

Applicant Information

Respond to the prompts below. All responses are required unless indicated otherwise.

Name

List your full name (First or Given Name, Middle Names, and Last Name) as indicated on your passport or official government identification.

First Name, Last Name

Gender

Select the option that best describes your gender.

Male

Email Address

test@test.org

Primary Phone Number

Please include country code.

+01-234-567-8901

WhatsApp Number (Optional)

If you have a WhatsApp number, please include. This number may be used to communicate during the application process or during the Fellowship.

+01-234-567-8901

Date of Birth

List your date of birth as it is listed on your official government identification. Only those born on or before November 28th, 2004 (11/28/2004) are eligible to apply.

Oct 21 2002

Citizenship Country

Please list the country in which you hold citizenship as indicated on your passport or official government identification document.

United States

Birth Country and City

Please list your birth city and country as indicated on your passport or official government identification document.

	City	Country
	Washington D.C.	United States

Where do you live now?

	City	State/Province/Region	Country
	Washington	DC	USA

Where did you live when you participated in your virtual exchange program?

This might be the same as your answer above, that is fine.

	City	State/Province/Region	Country
	Washington	DC	USA

Virtual Exchange Program

Select your virtual exchange program. Programs are listed with the program name first and the organization second. If you don't recognize your virtual exchange, select "other" here and then name and describe your virtual exchange in the first essay question. If you have participated in multiple, please select only one and then list your other virtual exchange programs below.

BRIDGE - iEARN USA

In which year did your virtual exchange program begin?

Please only include the starting year of your Stevens Initiative virtual exchange program.

2017

Study or Travel Abroad Experience

Please indicate your experience with study or travel abroad.

I have studied or traveled abroad on a program that WAS NOT sponsored by the U.S. Department of State.

Previous J1 Visa

Please indicate whether you have received a J1 visa. Alumni based in the U.S. should select the "have NEVER" option.

I have NEVER received a J1 visa.

Current Professional Level

Indicate your current professional level. If you are a student and working, please choose student and you can detail your other experiences in your resume/CV.

Early Career Professional

Describe your professional level.

Briefly describe your current professional level indicated above. Please include, as applicable for you:

- Which school you attend now and your major or course of study or;
- What company/institution/organization you work for now and your role or;
- How you spend your time if you had selected the "Other" category above.

The limit for this response is 50 words. You can describe your experience more fully in later sections of this application.

Briefly describe your current professional level indicated above.

Alumni Partner Information

Respond to the prompts below about your alumni partner. You should confirm these details with that partner. All responses are required unless indicated otherwise.

Partner's Name

List your partner's full name (First or Given Name, Middle Names, and Last Name) as indicated on their passport or official government identification.

Partners First Name, Last Name

Partner's Email Address

test@test.org

Partner's Primary Phone Number

Please include country code.

+11-234-567-8901

Where does your partner live now?

	City	State/Province/Region	Country
	Rabat	Kénitra	Morocco

In which year did your partner's virtual exchange program begin?

Please only include the starting year of your partner's Stevens Initiative virtual exchange program.

2017

Partner's Virtual Exchange Program

Select your partner's virtual exchange program. Programs are listed with the program name first and the organization second. If your partner does not recognize their virtual exchange, select "other" here and then name and describe their virtual exchange in the partnership support letter described below.

Connect Global - Soliya

Essay Questions

Read each question carefully. All questions are required and many have multiple parts. We encourage you to be thorough yet concise. Responses should range between 150-250 words for each essay.

#1: Briefly describe your virtual exchange, including what skills and experiences you gained during your program and how you have used these skills and experiences since your exchange.

This question has a 250 word limit.

Briefly describe your virtual exchange, including what skills and experiences you gained during your program and how you have used these skills and experiences since your exchange.

#2: We are committed to ensuring our programs include people with diverse identities or from underrepresented backgrounds. After reading about the Alumni Fellowship, how do you think the identities you hold could contribute to this small cohort of Fellows? How will your unique perspective and experience make the program better for all the participants?

This question has a 250 word limit.

We are committed to ensuring our programs include people with diverse identities or from underrepresented backgrounds. After reading about the Alumni Fellowship, how do you think the identities you hold could contribute to this small cohort of Fellows? How will your unique perspective and experience make the program better for all the participants?

#3: The Fellowship will benefit participants that have experience with intercultural exchange and cross-cultural communication and collaboration skills. How do you use these skills now, why are they important, and how will the Fellowship develop them further?

This question has a 250 word limit.

The Fellowship will benefit participants that have experience with intercultural exchange and cross-cultural communication and collaboration skills. How do you use these skills now, why are they important, and how will the Fellowship develop them further?

#4: One component of the Fellowship is the opportunity to do a community project developed and implemented with your partner that connects your communities. This project will let you use what you learned from your virtual exchange and this Fellowship to 1) continue learning, 2) develop professionally, and 3) make an impact in your community. Please describe an idea you have for what your community project might be.

Please note:

- Each project should include a virtual exchange component, connecting individuals from both communities for a cross-cultural experience.
- Projects should address a community need and can focus on a variety of topic areas (public health, technology, education/exchange, entrepreneurship, art education, etc.).
- It is important to work collaboratively to develop a project plan that is feasible and will positively impact each of your communities in some way.
- The idea listed here isn't final and will develop as a part of the Fellowship learning process. Alumni should plan on flexibility and consider feasibility for these projects.

This question has a 250 word limit.

One component of the Fellowship is the opportunity to do a community project developed and implemented with your partner that connects your communities. This project will let you use what you learned from your virtual exchange and this Fellowship to 1) continue learning, 2) develop professionally, and 3) make an impact in your community. Please describe an idea you have for what your community project might be.

#5: The Fellowship includes each Fellow hosting their partner in their home communities. What is one activity that you would like to plan and do with an international visitor in your community? What would that activity teach them about your community or your culture?

We recognize that your answer will vary and depend on your interest and what is possible in your community. Activities might include visiting a cultural landmark, exploring your neighborhood, or meeting with friends or family. You could also describe something totally different: we encourage you to be creative yet realistic. This question has a 250 word limit.

The Fellowship includes each Fellow hosting their partner in their home communities. What is one activity that you would like to plan and do with an international visitor in your community? What would that activity teach them about your community or your culture?

Additional Items

Each additional item is required. Please read the instructions carefully.

Resume

Upload your resume below. This resume can be in any format that you prefer, but should include your education, work, and other experience.

[Application Test.docx](#)

Filename: Application Test.docx **Size:** 12.0 kB

Your Photo

Please upload a photo of yourself, preferably a semi-formal profile picture, like one you would use on LinkedIn or on your university website. We would like this photograph to be high quality and composed in a way that makes it easy to recognize your face. Feel free to check out Stevens Initiative Alumni Success Stories ([this story](#) is an especially good example of the kind of photos we like) to get an idea of the kind of photos we are looking for.

Please note, there **should not be other people** in your photo.

[Application Test.docx](#)

Filename: Application Test.docx **Size:** 12.0 kB

Video Introduction

Upload a video introduction. In this introduction you should include:

- Your name and where you are from;
- The name of your virtual exchange program and the year you participated;
- A few personal or professional interests;
- One skill or experience you gained from your virtual exchange;
- How your virtual exchange exposed you to new ideas, skills, or opportunities to learn;
- What you want to gain from the Fellowship (focus on one idea);

This video doesn't need to be high-quality. Use whatever tools you have at your disposal to create the video (cell phone, headphones, computer, camera, etc.). This video can be up to **two minutes long**, the file size can be up to 500 MB, and the video file type should either be Audio Video Interleaved (.avi) or MPEG-4 (.mp4).

[Application Test.docx](#)

Filename: Application Test.docx **Size:** 12.0 kB

Support Letter - Professional Connection

Professional Support Letter: Please upload a letter of recommendation from a professional in your network or community or an educator or administrator from the institution of higher education that you attend or attended. This recommendation letter should include:

- The writer's relationship to you (teacher/professor, mentor, employer, virtual exchange facilitator);
- Their contact information (full name, professional affiliation, email address);
- A brief description of why you should be included in this Fellowship opportunity and what you might gain from the experience;
- A statement of support for you being able to fulfill commitments and expectations required for the program.

This letter can be formatted however you would like and you can upload as a Word document or a PDF.

Letters should be written in English.

[Application Test.docx](#)

Filename: Application Test.docx **Size:** 12.0 kB

Support Letter - Partnership

Partnership Support Letter: Please upload a letter written collaboratively with the partner you indicated earlier in the application. Both partners should upload the same letter in each of their applications. This support letter should include:

- Each partner's information contact information (full name, professional/educational affiliation, email address);
- A brief description of how you connected with each other, either through your virtual exchange program or through the partnership interest form;
- A brief description of why you are applying as partners, how you plan to collaborate, and what you each hope to learn from each other and your communities;
- A statement of commitment from each partner to follow through on the program requirements and expectations for the entire Fellowship.

This letter can be formatted however you would like and you can upload as a Word document or a PDF.

Letters should be written in English.

[Application Test.docx](#)

Filename: Application Test.docx **Size:** 12.0 kB

Scan/Photo of Passport

Upload a clear photo or scan of your passport's photo page. You can also upload a confirmation that you have applied for a passport if you are currently in the process of securing one.

You can upload as a jpeg, Word document, or PDF.

[Application Test.docx](#)

Filename: Application Test.docx **Size:** 12.0 kB

Internet Data Support

We understand that some alumni might need limited financial support to cover high internet data costs to participate in this Fellowship. If this is true for you, please select the "I do need additional support" option below, and then describe the high technology costs in your community and approximately how much financial support (in USD per month) you would need to cover these costs.

Responses Selected:

I DO NOT require additional support.

Qualifications and Expectations

Read and respond to the prompts below.

I confirm that I meet the eligibility requirements to be an Alumni Fellow listed below.

- Applicants must be at least 18 years old by the time this application closes and an alum of a J. Christopher Stevens Virtual Exchange Initiative program. An alum is someone who successfully completed their virtual exchange program. Alumni status will be verified with Stevens Initiative grantee organizations.
- Applicants must fill out their own application individually, but will be asked about their partner alum in the application. Alumni should plan to connect with another J. Christopher Stevens Virtual Exchange alum before submitting an application to confirm the partnership and gather the required information. Each alumni pair should consist of one U.S.-based alum and one MENA-based alum. This partnership is important since each alum will visit their partner's community, welcome their partner to their own community, and plan and implement a project together.
- Applicants must demonstrate moderate to high English language proficiency, assessed in the application through written answers and a recorded video. Alumni are encouraged to apply even if they are concerned about their level of English proficiency since the Initiative defines moderate English language proficiency broadly.
- Applicants must have access to a computer with a strong internet connection, microphone, and webcam. Limited funding to cover internet data costs might be available for selected participants that demonstrate need.
- For MENA-based applicants, you must be eligible to receive a J1 visa. This means that you must have an active passport or have applied for a passport before submitting an application for this

Fellowship. You must also be able to travel to your local U.S. embassy or consulate for an interview. Travel costs to secure a visa will be supported by the program.

- For U.S.-based applicants, you must be able to secure a visa to participate in MENA country visits, as applicable. This means you must have an active passport or have applied for a passport before submitting an application for this Fellowship.
- Applicants must have access to a bank account that can accept transfers from U.S. organizations to receive project support and participation funds. This bank account must be active and in the name of the applicant.
- Applicants must demonstrate a commitment to complete all Fellowship components, including: six-to-eight hours per month for virtual learning and activities, attendance at all in-person events (including travel days) and completion of the community service project developed during the Fellowship.

Yes, I confirm that i meet these qualifications and expectations.

Commitment and Expectations

The Fellowship can only accept a limited number of participants, and the Stevens Initiative expects full and active participation throughout the program. The success of this cohort-model training relies on engaged and attentive Fellows during live sessions, in-person activities, and any other activities. If selected to participate in this Fellowship program, you acknowledge and agree to the following expectations and commitments:

- Fellows will dedicate 6-8 hours per month during the Fellowship for virtual learning and activities, to attend all virtual and in-person events (including travel days), and to complete a community service project developed during the Fellowship.
- The planned two workshops and two community visits are important components of this Fellowship and participation is mandatory. Fellows are required to attend each and work with Initiative staff to plan travel. Final dates and locations will be shared early in the Fellowship and these events should be prioritized.
- Live sessions and in-person workshops emphasize interaction rather than passive learning. Fellows are expected to do all pre-session preparation thoroughly and on time and should arrive ready to engage in activities and discussions.
- For planning purposes and travel support, Fellows must have active bank accounts in their names that can receive funds from the U.S. and must have an active passport.
- If Fellows are not able to meet these qualifications or fail to follow through on these expectations, they might be asked to leave the Fellowship, which would impact their partner's participation.

Responses Selected:

Yes, this is acknowledged. I will commit to fulfilling all program components and expectations.

Media Use Acknowledgement

I acknowledge that if I am selected for this Fellowship, some of the responses in this application might be used by the Initiative for publicity or program promotion.

Responses Selected:

Yes, this is acknowledged.

Final Submission

Once your application is complete please click the "Mark as Complete" button below. You will then have the opportunity to review your answers and test your uploaded files before you fully submit the application. **You must press the "Submit" button on the top left of the next page** to fully submit your application. You will receive an automatic email confirming your submission. If you do not receive this email, you should reach out for help to: stevensalumni@aspeninstitute.org.