

# CLOSE UP CIVIC FELLOWSHIP

2025 - 2026

**Spend a year inspiring, empowering, and serving young people while building your own career!**

You're a recent college graduate (or about to be one), dedicated to serving others and looking to build your skills and network in civic education, nonprofit work, or the realms of politics and policy. Join us for the [Close Up Civic Fellowship](#), a life-changing year of engaging young people in the political process, breaking down the barriers of polarization, and making your mark as an aspiring educator, issue advocate, or nonprofit leader.

**WHO ARE CIVIC FELLOWS?** Civic Fellows are energetic, recent college graduates with a passion for service, civic education, public policy, and government. Civic Fellows join the Close Up Foundation for a year-long term as we help high school and middle school students discover their own power as citizens.

**WHAT DO CIVIC FELLOWS DO?** As a Civic Fellow, you'll become part of Close Up's tightly knit team of civic educators, working together to serve young people of all backgrounds in a varied, fast-paced environment.

You'll have the opportunity to:

- Lead civic education programs in our nation's capital for diverse students from across the country, helping them discuss and debate the issues that matter to them.
- Meet and build relationships with elected officials, nonprofit leaders, and policy experts.
- Work closely with Close Up's partners, from Bank of America to the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute, to serve participants in special-focus youth summits, including those for Native American students, migrant and immigrant youth, and students working locally to engage their government.
- Lead students in explorations of historical cities up and down the east coast, including New York City, Philadelphia, and Williamsburg.
- Participate in professional development sessions with skilled educators.
- Collaborate with Curriculum leaders to create content for students across our programs.

Most of the time, you'll be staffing multi-day civic education programs in Washington, D.C., leading high school or middle school students through study visits to monuments and memorials, meetings with elected officials, and engaging simulations, discussions, and debates. Your work with students will provide you with the firsthand knowledge needed to assist in our efforts to study and improve civic learning outcomes.

**COMPENSATION, BENEFITS, AND EXPERIENCE** As you engage students of all perspectives and help them move beyond the echo chambers of social media, you'll also receive invaluable experience and benefits, including:

- An annualized salary of \$41,000 paid semi-monthly
- Generous benefits (including medical and dental insurance, no-cost life/AD&D insurance, FSA plan, retirement plan, all meals while working on program, mass transit subsidy, monthly cell-phone stipend, and the opportunity to earn free graduate credit)
- Sick leave and built-in, paid breaks around Thanksgiving and at the end of December
- Exposure to elected officials, policy experts, and issue advocates
- An extensive network of alumni, schools, and leaders in politics, policy, and the nonprofit world
- Eligibility for the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program
- Comprehensive training and coaching
- Leadership and skill development
- Expertise in civics and educational systems and practices
- Eligibility for the Close Up Civic Educator Award

**HOW DO YOU APPLY?** We have **10 openings** for our Civic Fellowship, which runs from **September 2025 through June 2026**. This is a paid, full-time position that is open to applicants who will have graduated from a four-year college or university between spring 2023 and September 2025.

The [application](#) requires a resume, a cover letter, 2-3 professional references, and short responses to several questions. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis through May 15, so be sure to apply as soon as possible.

**ABOUT CLOSE UP** Close Up is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, civic education organization that informs, inspires, and empowers young people to become active citizens. Since 1971, we have partnered with school districts nationwide to serve more than one million students and educators through experiential learning programs in our nation's capital and in local communities, professional development, and curriculum design and consulting. Our goal is to connect what students learn in class to the real world around them and help them articulate their own views, listen to those of others, and engage with people of different backgrounds with tolerance and understanding. To learn more, visit [www.CloseUp.org](http://www.CloseUp.org).