



## **James E. Clyburn Fellowship Application 2020**

### **Objective:**

The South Carolina Democratic Party James E. Clyburn Political Fellowship (Clyburn Fellowship) offers leadership, policy, and campaign training to young professionals living in South Carolina. The Clyburn Fellowship was created to develop and train the next generation of Democratic leaders.

Over the course of a year Fellows will meet during four two-day intensive seminars over a twelve-month program. Each session will be led by experienced and accomplished national and state facilitators. These facilitators will help participants explore the concepts and challenges of Party leadership. This includes learning proven campaign strategies and developing skills critical to winning elections. Ultimately this program shapes Fellows on their way to becoming politicians, campaign managers, fundraising directors and consultants in local, county and state party operations.

### **Goals:**

The goal of the Fellowship is to develop the next generation of leadership and talent in the South Carolina Democratic Party. At the conclusion of the program, each Fellow will be equipped to work in the field of politics that best suits their aspirations. They will have abilities vital not only to winning offices but governing as well.

### **Background on James E. Clyburn**

The Fellowship is named after one of the most successful Congressmen in the history of the South Carolina Democratic Party. James E. Clyburn is Majority Whip in the United States House of Representatives, making him the third ranking Democrat in Leadership. Previously, Clyburn has served as Assistant Democratic Leader, House Democratic Caucus Chairman and Vice Chairman, as well as Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus. In 1993, Clyburn became the first African-American to serve in Congress from South Carolina since Reconstruction. Before becoming a member of Congress, Clyburn was extremely active in South Carolina politics.

## **Fellowship Requirements and Qualifications**

We're looking for a diverse and dynamic group of men and women who are interested in running for office, running political campaigns and developing into leaders in the Democratic Party. Applications are sought from individuals who are interested in enhancing their leadership and political skills in order to better serve their communities, constituencies and causes.

Nominees should be residents of South Carolina, eighteen years of age or older, and be considered or have the potential to be among the top young leaders within their respective counties.

### *Desired Clyburn Fellows Qualifications*

- Dedication to the values of the Democratic Party
- Interest in running for or helping others achieve public office
- Desire to participate in the political process and to strengthen leadership skills
- Experience in local community activities and electoral politics
- Ability to excite and expand the Democratic base
- Willingness to learn and explore different points of view

The curriculum for the training sessions will include discussions of the following:

- Examining the challenges of leadership and qualities of leadership necessary to master the forces of change;
- Exploring various political case studies related to topics like political ethics;
- Develop a winning strategy and executing a successful campaign;
- Recruiting and managing staff and volunteers;
- Creating and communicating messages that educate and motivate others into action;
- Running a local party apparatus;
- Building a fundraising program and raising the necessary funds to win;
- Understanding the balance of a field versus media strategy in today's campaigns; and
- Utilizing data, social media, and the latest technology to win elections.

### ***Application Process***

Completed applications may be submitted starting Monday, December 23, 2019. These applications must be completed by Wednesday, January 22, 2020. The selection review process takes place in late January/early February. Application may be emailed to [Clyburnfellowship@scdp.org](mailto:Clyburnfellowship@scdp.org) or mailed to South Carolina Democratic Party, 1929 Gadsden Street, Columbia, SC 29201.

The fellowship covers participants' lodging, meals and program costs, however, Fellows must pay travel and parking expenses.

## **Fellowship and Schedule**

There are 4 sessions throughout the course of the year at the State Party Headquarters located at 1929 Gadsden Street in Columbia. Sessions are generally scheduled one weekend every other month and typically begin at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday and conclude by 2:00 p.m. on Sunday. Applicants are expected to attend all sessions to be considered for the Fellowship, though one absence is permitted for graduation from the program. Start times and end times of sessions are subject to change. The 2020 Sessions have been scheduled for the following dates:

**March 7 and 8, 2020**

**April 25 and 26, 2020**

**June 27 and 28, 2020**

**August 29 and 30, 2020**

**Pinning Ceremony TBD**

### ***Commitment***

Becoming a Clyburn Fellow is a substantial time commitment. Participants are expected to attend all four weekend sessions and to fully participate in order to receive a certificate of completion. If your schedule will not permit this, please delay your application until you are able to make this time commitment. If you are a candidate or campaign director you may want to consider applying in a non election year.

**Please complete all of the information indicated below: *Please include a picture***

**Name:**

**Birthdate:**

**Street Address:**

**Apt #:**

**City:**

**Zip Code:**

**County:**

**Phone (specify Home or Cell):**

**Facebook Page:**

**Twitter:**

**Do you expect to remain in your home county for at least five years?** Yes No Unsure

**Do you expect to remain in South Carolina for at least five years?** Yes No Unsure

**Do you speak Spanish?**

**Current Employer:**

**Current Position/Job Title:**

**Current Employer Address:**

**Suite #:**

**City:**

**Zip Code:**

**Please Provide your last three employers beginning with the most recent.**

Employer / Position	Title	Period of Service (Mo/ Yr)
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1.

2.

3.

## **Education and Training**

**Please list specialized programs/training, business/trade schools, and college(s) attended beginning with the most recent.**

School or Program Name:

Date(s) Attended:

Certificate or Degree:

## **Organization and Leadership Activities:**

**Please list, in order of importance to you, your current participation in political, community, professional, social, religious and other activities. Please include position held where applicable and dates of participation.**

**Briefly state what you would consider to be your most important contribution to the above organizations.**

**Do you currently hold elected office? If so what position?**

**Do you aspire to run for office?**

## **Personal Statement, Writing Sample and Resume:**

**Please describe your personal goals, including any political activity you wish to pursue.** What outcomes do you hope for as a result of your participation in the Clyburn Fellowship? *750 character limit.*

**Please submit a writing sample.** This can be previous academic work or may follow our prompt. The prompt being: What is your vision for the state of South Carolina and how are you a part of that vision? *250 words suggested, 500 word maximum. Previously completed works should be no more than 1000 words.*

**Please include a resume with your application,** which includes education and job(s) you have held. Include your responsibilities for your job(s).

**Please Submit two letters of recommendation.** These letters may be from anyone, however we would love to see letters of recommendation from those who have reported to you or have worked with you. Do not include family members. Please provide the following information about your recommenders in the space below: Name, Title/Organization, Phone Number. *The recommender should mail the letter of recommendation to 1929 Gadsden Street, Columbia, SC, 29201 or email [Clyburnfellowship@scdp.org](mailto:Clyburnfellowship@scdp.org) by Wednesday, January 22, 2020.*