



JAMES E. CLYBURN POLITICAL FELLOWSHIP

DESCRIPTION AND APPLICATION





SOUTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATIC PARTY

JAMES E. CLYBURN POLITICAL FELLOWSHIP

Objective

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

Over the course of a year, 50 Fellows (at least one from each county (46) and four at-large) will meet during five three-day intensive seminars/training sessions over a twelve-month program. Each session will be led by experienced and accomplished national and state facilitators who will help the participants explore the concepts and challenges of party leadership, learn proven campaign strategies and best practices, and develop skills critical to winning elections and ultimately governing.

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 experience, each Fellow will be equipped to run for elected office, manage issue-based or political campaigns, and participate in the leadership/management of local and county party operations.

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

- Examining the challenges of leadership and the qualities of leadership necessary to master the forces of change;
- Exploring various political case studies related to topics like political ethics;
- Developing 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.

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 becoming 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, or causes.

Nominees should be residents of South Carolina, between the ages of 25 and 45, and be considered or have the potential to be among the top young leaders within their respective counties.

Clyburn Fellows Qualifications

Dedication to the values of the Democratic Party
Desire to enhance leadership skills to serve
Interest in running for public office
Desire to participate in the political process
Experience in local community activities and electoral politics
Willingness to learn and explore different points of view

DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 18, 2015

MAIL YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:

SCDP Clyburn Fellowship
ATTN: Jason Perkey
915 Lady Street, Ste. 111
Columbia, SC 29201

Application Process

Completed applications must be received by September 18, 2015. The selection review process takes place in late September and Fellowships are awarded by October 9, 2015. Selected applicants will be interviewed based on written application, personal statement and letters of recommendation.

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

Fellowship and Schedule

There are 5 sessions throughout the course of the year. Sessions are generally scheduled one weekend every other month and typically begin at 4:00 p.m. on Friday and conclude by 1:00 p.m. on Sunday. **Full participation is required.** Applicants should be available to attend all sessions to be considered for the Fellowship. NOTE: Start times and end times of sessions are subject to change, please allow for flexibility. A complete schedule will be available by October 9, 2015. The first session of the Fellowship is scheduled for November 6-8. **Please make sure these dates can be accommodated on your schedule when applying.**

Commitment

Becoming a Clyburn Fellow is a substantial time commitment. Participants are expected to attend all five 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. Due to campaign demands, the SCDP typically does not accept applications from candidates or candidate staff who will be engaged in a campaign during the Fellowship year.

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 currently the Assistant Democratic Leader in the United States House of Representatives, the third ranking Democrat in Democratic Leadership. Previously, Clyburn served as House Majority Whip, 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.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Please include a picture.

Name: _____

Birthdate: _____

Home Information: _____

Street Address: _____ Apt #: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

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

EMPLOYMENT

Current Employer Name: _____

Position/Job Title: _____

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)
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

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 STATEMENTS AND RESUMÉ

Please attach the following items to this application.

PERSONAL STATEMENTS

Please attach two statements to this application as outlined below. Please double space your remarks.

Statement #1: Should be no more than 500 words articulating your personal goals including the political activity you wish to pursue. Discuss highlights of recent leadership responsibilities and achievements. What was/were the greatest challenge(s) you faced and what steps did you take to overcome it/them? What outcomes do you hope for as a result of your participation in the Clyburn Fellowship?

Statement #2: Should be no more than 250 words describing a public policy issue that you believe needs to be addressed in South Carolina and why this policy issue is important.

RESUMÉ

Please attach a current resumé.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Please provide two letters of recommendation from individuals who can evaluate your leadership potential. Do not include family members. Letters of recommendation should describe why the applicant has potential as a future leader in South Carolina.

Please provide the following information about the letters of recommendation we will be receiving.

Name	Title/Organization	Phone
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____

Letters of recommendation should be mailed separately to:

SCDP Clyburn Fellowship
 ATTN: Jason Perkey
 915 Lady Street, Ste. 111
 Columbia, SC 29201

Application Checklist:

- Completed application (pages 4-6)
- Photograph
- Resumé
- Personal statements (2)
- Letters of recommendation (2, mailed separately)

QUESTIONS?

Please contact Jason Perkey at:
 jperkey@scdp.org
 803-799-7798

Paid for and Authorized by the South Carolina Democratic Party