

August 2026

Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program Instructions for Nominators

These instructions are intended only for nominators and their fellowship nominees. Please do not publish or distribute them widely. Detailed information about the program, including the application process, can be viewed on our [program information page](#). When the nominee is ready to submit an application, the registration begins [here](#).

The Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program is open to academics, journalists, and public intellectuals. Nominees must have a Ph.D. or other terminal degree or be a high-level professional working outside of academia.

University presidents, Chancellors, or Provosts may nominate one tenured and one untenured scholar. No nominations from Deans or other officials who are not the head or academic leader of a whole institution will be accepted. Nominators other than heads of universities and colleges — e.g., the head of a think tank, publisher, or newspaper — may nominate one high-level scholar or professional.

If you wish to nominate, please provide your candidate with a letter of nomination that describes the individual's qualifications and share [THIS LINK](#) to the program information page. It includes instructions for the nominee on how to complete and submit the application.

The deadline for submitting a completed application is 5:00 p.m. ET on **Friday, November 13, 2026**. No exceptions will be made. Nominees should upload your letter and the other required materials.

A **complete application** includes the following:

1. Your letter of nomination, including a brief description of the candidate's accomplishments and potential, *your internal process for selecting nominees*, and the research proposal's potential, regardless of the area of study, **to inform responses to political polarization**. The letter should be addressed to Dame Louise Richardson, Jury Chair, Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program.
 - a. Note: Only an application with a letter of nomination from a nominator designated by the Corporation will be considered. Self-nominations will not be accepted.
2. A three- to five-page prospectus prepared by the nominee that describes the proposed research, including a projected work plan and approximate time frame. The prospectus should be double-spaced with a minimum of 12-point font.
 - a. Note: Jurors will not read any prospectus beyond the five-page limit (footnotes and bibliography excepted, but brevity is appreciated).
3. A one-page summary of the prospectus, formatted as above.
4. A description of the project in 75 words or fewer.

5. An estimate of budgetary requirements — a budget form and instructions are provided as part of the online application.
6. A copy of nominee's curriculum vitae.
7. A one-page summary of the nominee's curriculum vitae (bulleted format).
8. A short, narrative biography of 250–400 words for use in media dissemination and on our [website](#).

The selection process consists of two stages. First, our anonymous evaluators — nationally prominent experts in relevant fields — will review all proposals. Next, the top-ranked proposals will be forwarded to the members of the jury for their scrutiny and ultimate decision.

Criteria

Nominations will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Originality and promise of the idea
- Quality of the proposal
- Record of the nominee
- Plans to communicate findings to a broad audience beyond the scholar's academic discipline
- Promise to offer lessons for the US in addressing harmful polarization or enhancing social cohesion

All recipients must be U.S. citizens or have permanent U.S. residency status. Nominees should bear in mind that individual fellowships will not be awarded to support dissertations, debt repayments, lobbying efforts, the purchase of equipment, or rent. Fellowships may be used to support such expenses as salary, fringe benefits*, project-related travel, research assistants, data collection, and surveys.

The recipient of a fellowship may choose to accept the award directly, as an individual, or through your institution (or if they are not employed by the same institution as their nominator, through their employer). Nominees should be aware that there *may be tax implications* associated with the award if it is received by the individual. Carnegie Corporation of New York will issue a Form 1099 at the end of the tax year for all funds disbursed to individuals. However, the Corporation cannot give tax advice. If the fellowship recipient chooses to accept the award through the affiliated institution, that entity serves as payor and assumes all tax-reporting responsibilities for the fellow's award. Whether the fellowship recipient receives the award directly or through the institution, no indirect/overhead costs shall be allowed or paid to the institution. The entire sum shall be used for support of the research project.

Nominators from colleges and universities: Nominations must be approved by the president. In nominating a scholar for the fellowship, the institution is expressly indicating its full support for the nominee. If the nominee is chosen, the institution agrees to make certain that the individual suffers no adverse financial or other consequences as a result, including but not limited to, loss or suspension of health or retirement benefits. [Please see our FAQs for more information](#)

In accepting an institution's nomination, the candidate is affirming that if chosen for a fellowship, the individual will accept it and complete the research project. Winners may not accept other fellowships of equal caliber in addition to the Andrew Carnegie fellowship during the same time period.

For more information, please contact Kate Newburger: kn@carnegie.org; 212.207.6373