

THE HUD PUBLIC HOUSING FELLOWS (HUD Fellows) PROGRAM

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the University of Maryland School of Public Affairs are pleased to announce a special educational opportunity for the best and most committed of the nation's public housing managers.

In order to strengthen housing authorities' ability to implement the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act effectively, HUD will sponsor up to 25 individuals to participate in a one-year Masters Degree Program targeted to public housing professionals at University of Maryland's School of Public Affairs (MSPA) The initial program will be conducted from January through December of 2001.

ABOUT THE MARYLAND SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Maryland School of Public Affairs is a professional school dedicated to the preparation of leaders and managers who will be able to operate effectively and advance in an increasingly complex policy environment in any policy field for which they may find themselves responsible. The School was recently ranked in the Top 20 out of 248 schools of public policy in the nation.

The HUD Fellows program is a 39 credit program of study specifically designed to create a cadre of public housing professionals with a Masters of Public Policy for Public Housing Administration degree that offers the assurance that the individual possesses the expertise needed to lead and manage public housing authorities in the future.

The pilot class will be jointly selected by the University and HUD. A formal student commitment to continuation in their public housing agency for at least three years after graduation is a condition of the fellowship award.

PARTICIPANTS

Program participants will be competitively selected from nominees submitted to HUD and the University of Maryland by their sponsoring agencies. Nominees for this program must have at least 5 years of experience in public housing; have high potential for promotion within their authorities or HUD; be committed to remaining in the profession long term; and have graduated from a reputable four-year college or university with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher or already have an additional higher level degree and meet MSPA's admissions criteria.

COSTS

The cost of the full program is \$21,500 per student, which includes tuition set at standard out-of-state University tuition rates, fees, and books. HUD will cover the full costs of tuition and books for successful candidates and their agencies will be expected to give them leave with pay to complete their degrees, and to provide funds for student lodging and travel if necessary.

HUD's costs will be structured as a forgivable loan, with one-third of the obligation retired for each successive year after completion of the degree that the individual continues to serve the housing authority.

CURRICULUM

While set in the context of public housing, the program is intended to provide participants with a broader, deeper understanding of finance, public policy formulation, and decision making in the public sector. The program contains thirteen courses (39 credit hours) -- four courses taught in each of two fifteen-week university terms (Spring and Fall 2001), four courses taught in an intensive twelve-week summer program, and one agency specific capstone course, which continues throughout the full year on campus.

In addition, there is a math immersion course that will be taught partially online and partially on campus prior to the start of classes. It is a non-credit course that requires students to focus on learning mathematical and statistical methodologies and applying the concepts to certain problems.

While enrolled in the program, HUD Fellows will have their academic coursework supplemented by special enrichment experiences like meetings with members of Congress, high level HUD officials and private developers and field trips to exemplary affordable housing developments. Each fellow will have a private sector mentor experienced in housing development or management.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES

Completed applications for admission to University of Maryland's School of Public Affairs are due by September 29th. Applicants should submit a letter signed by the Executive Director of their housing authority indicating the housing authority's willingness to provide release time with pay and related costs with their completed application. MSPA and HUD will notify applicants whether or not they have been admitted by October 27th. The spring semester begins January 29, 2001; HUD Fellows will be asked to arrive on campus by January 15, 2001 to do pre-semester preparatory work.

The University requires that all applicants for Masters Degrees have a Bachelors Degree from an accredited institution, with a minimum cumulative 3.0 grade point average. The standard for the School of Public Affairs is higher. Typical entering classes at the School have a median GPA of 3.5. If the applicant already has a Masters Degree, the 3.0 undergraduate GPA requirement may, with strong justification, be waived.

Mid-career applicants for a Masters of Public Policy degree must have at least five years of relevant experience and are not required to take the Graduate Record Examination.

Application forms may be downloaded from www.inform.umd.edu and link to the "graduate" link or may be requested by calling Kecia Campbell (301) 405-6744 or Monica Moody Moore (301) 405-7360. When completing the application please note "HUD Fellow - MFL" on the area of the specialization.

For more information, please contact:

Monica Moody Moore, Director of Admissions
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Please visit our website at www.puaf.umd.edu