IGNITE Fellowship Program Description 2019-2020

About IGNITE
IGNITE is a national movement that dramatically increases the pool of women who are prepared and eager to become the next generation of political leaders. As a nonpartisan 501c3, IGNITE builds political ambition in high school and college-aged young women in their own communities. Our vision is to build a movement of young women who are civically engaged, respond to issues in their own communities, and who ultimately pursue elective office.

IGNITE Fellows
IGNITE is offering a year-long Fellowship Program for young women who are civically engaged, politically ambitious, and aim to position themselves for a life of political leadership. During the 2019-20 academic year, IGNITE will select Fellows in the following communities: Atlanta, GA; Birmingham, AL; Boston, MA; Central Valley, CA; Chicago, IL; Columbus, OH; Denver, CO; Madison, WI; Memphis, TN; Miami, FL; Minneapolis-St.Paul, MN; New York, NY; San Antonio, TX; Seattle, WA; Southern CA.

IGNITE’s headquartered in the San Francisco Bay Area. IGNITE Fellows will travel to national trainings and convenings and will return to their home communities for program delivery. Fellows will be supported by the national leadership team and join a professional learning community with other fellows across the country.

Key Program Highlights

Kick-off training in San Francisco Bay Area (September 9 - September 15, 2019) IGNITE Fellows will launch the year with a week-long orientation in the San Francisco Bay Area, featuring political leadership training and meetings with prominent elected women leaders.

Mid Year Training Retreats (December 2019 or January 2020) IGNITE Fellows will convene regionally in the middle of the program year for support and additional training.

Advocacy + National Conference in Washington D.C. (June 2020) The IGNITE Fellowship culminates in Washington D.C. where the cohort will help to organize and facilitate our annual national conference, Young Women Run. Fellows will meet with Congressional Leaders, high-level policymakers, and advocacy groups engaged in the policy process.

Informational interviews with female legislators IGNITE Fellows access a vast network of elected women leaders, policymakers, and campaign consultants who can advance their careers. Each Fellow will have the opportunity to have informational interviews over the course of a year with elected women leaders from their
home state (or beyond). Those interviews will be a two-way street: Fellows will interview the elected leaders about how and why they ran for their particular offices, and they will be able to present their own backgrounds and goals to the elected women for career guidance and potential job and internship leads. Ultimately, each IGNITE Fellow will write up what she learned for publication on the IGNITE blog and other social media.

**Media training and promotion** Fellows will receive an intensive communications training focused on media and message delivery so that IGNITE Fellows can be called upon for IGNITE press and public speaking activities throughout the year. IGNITE will promote our fellows in various media and public speaking outlets in their home regions, as well as on the IGNITE blog and on behalf of IGNITE in outside media outlets.

**Webinars** IGNITE Fellows will attend webinars where they will acquire a deeper knowledge of politics, policy, and advocacy from the top people in the field. Seminar topics may include: immigration policy, reproductive rights and women’s health, paid parental leave, fundraising fundamentals, and more.

**Fellows will be responsible for the following work product over the course of the year:**

**Build and sustain an IGNITE college council across your region** IGNITE College Councils are a regional body made up of politically motivated and ambitious women leaders who want to build their own leadership skills and bring the IGNITE program to their college campuses. The Council meets quarterly to discuss relevant policy issues, hear from dynamic elected official speakers, develop political leadership skills, and build a network that can facilitate their ambitions for civic and political leadership. IGNITE fellows are responsible for building and sustaining high-performing and thriving college councils in the state that they reside in. To do that Fellows will:

- Secure space and manage logistics (including food, technology, materials and supplies) associated with each College Council meeting
- Recruit 2-3 representatives from at least 4 local colleges/universities to serve on the IGNITE College Council
- Ensure College Council members active attendance and engagement in the quarterly meetings
- Coordinate speakers and trainers for each meetings
- Facilitate each College Council meeting

**Build and sustain college chapters in your region** IGNITE College Leaders ultimately will bring IGNITE to their campuses by building college chapters, which increase the civic engagement and political leadership of campus women, provide college/university women with a network of like-minded, ambitious peers and help young women run for office on their campus and beyond.

To build these chapters, IGNITE Fellows will work with College Council members from each campus to:

- Facilitate and lead college informational sessions to introduce IGNITE to the school community on college campuses
- Meet and communicate with college leaders on a bi-monthly basis
- Visit College Chapters
- Support college leaders in sourcing elected officials and policy presenters
- Build partnerships with on-campus leaders to effectively support college leaders as they build their chapter
- Build relationships with local elected officials and candidates, trainers and community organizations

**Create and Submit a Program Portfolio** IGNITE wants to see what you’re up to! IGNITE fellows will be responsible for sharing programmatic progress across the academic year through writing, photo or video or a combination. Each month, Fellows will submit highlights of accomplishments within the region through writing, photo stories, and videos from events. Fellows will also be expected to submit a summative document that details their successes, key relationships they have developed and information for the next fellow to continue the work.

**Supervision + Support**

All IGNITE fellows will be supervised regionally and nationally. Fellows are responsible for weekly written and verbal communication to ensure they are meeting program benchmarks. IGNITE will provide each fellow with extensive training and ongoing coaching and supervision. Fellows MUST attend ALL scheduled trainings and meetings. Fellows will receive deadlines and are required to complete all documents reporting on their work including a weekly planning and reflection sheet, quarterly program activity report, and maintaining their IGNITE google calendar.

**Hours + Stipend**

This is a 15 to 20 hour a week fellowship. Fellows will receive a $10,000 stipend.