



Growing Home Fellowship Overview

The Growing Home Fellowship is awarded to leverage potential of the young adult K-12 workforce to advance sustained transformation in communities across Appalachian Ohio. This program supports fellows with financial stipends, leadership development experiences, and peer support for five years.

Program Overview: Fellows agree to live, work, and serve through a meaningful leadership development program in Appalachian Ohio for a five-year period. Fellows will participate in a leadership development program consisting of service, skill-building, and social connections by engaging in a cohort focusing on one of the following topics: regional, local community, or sector-based servant leadership.

Fellows will participate in one of the following cohorts:

1. Regional Leadership through *FAO's I'm A Child of Appalachia® Fund*.
 - Enhance the regional community by supporting grant and scholarship programs, capacity-building initiatives, events, and partnerships.
2. Local Community Development
 - Enhance the local community by volunteering for and collaborating with local community foundations and/or other community-service organizations.
3. Sector-Based Programming Initiatives
 - Enhance the education sector in a significantly expanded way and/or leverage educational expertise to strengthen the broader community.

Each fellow will be expected to attend and participate in no more than 10 program convenings and summits over the five years of the pilot program period. Additionally, Fellows will be invited to join and participate in FAO events at their convenience over the course of the fellowship.

Stipend: \$32,000, that may be used at the Fellow's discretion to ensure their continued employment and residency in Appalachian Ohio and the K-12 workforce.

Eligibility: To be eligible for this fellowship, you must meet the following requirements:

- Applicant resides within the 32 counties of Appalachian Ohio **or** will be moving to the region for employment.
- Applicant serves the K-12 population. This includes, but is not limited to: educators, intervention specialists, guidance counselors, school psychologists, school outreach workers, or school nurses. Please see a list on AppalachianOhio.org/GrowingHome for details on employment eligibility.
- Applicant has a passion for developing their leadership skills and for Appalachian Ohio.

Process: FAO has an appointed a Fellowship Advisory Committee to recommend awards. Final approval is made by the FAO's Board of Trustees and decisions are final. Award recipients will be required to show proof of employment and residency. All awards are made payable directly to the individual and are considered taxable income.

Notification of Awards: FAO will contact recipients, using the email address provided on the application. Be sure to check all email folders, including spam, for correspondence from FAO.

GROWING HOME FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICATION TYPE

- ☐ I currently live in Appalachian Ohio and have a job serving K-12 students.
- ☐ I am moving to Appalachian Ohio for a job serving K-12 students.
- ☐ I am applying for a K-12 job in Appalachia.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: _____
Last First Middle

Date of Birth: _____

Gender: _____ (optional)

Ethnicity: _____ (optional)

Mailing Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Email*: _____
(*FAO will use this email address to communicate with you)

Phone: _____
(Best number to contact you/leave message)

How did you learn about the Growing Home Fellowship?

- ☐ Newspaper _____ ☐ Social Media _____ ☐ University _____
- ☐ Local Community Foundation _____ ☐ School District _____ Other _____

HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

Are you head of household? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you have a significant other? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Name of Significant Other: _____ Occupation: _____

Names and ages of dependents in the home:

1. _____

3. _____

2. _____

4. _____

Do you have any family living in Appalachian Ohio? ☐ Yes ☐ No

What is your relation to this individual? ☐ Great - Grandparent ☐ Grandparent ☐ Parent ☐ Other

If other, please list _____

If so, what county does your family member (s) reside in? _____

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION

High School Attended: _____

**Or High School Equivalency*

Graduation Date: (MM/YY) _____

High School State: _____

High School County: _____

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

Undergraduate Education: _____

Graduation Date: (MM/YY) _____

Postgraduate Education: _____

Graduation Date: (MM/YY) _____

Postgraduate Education: _____

Graduation Date: (MM/YY) _____

Please list the degree(s)/ certificates/ licensures obtained.

CURRENT OCCUPATION

Employer's Name: _____ Current Job Title: _____

School District Served: _____ School Name: _____

Length of Current Employment: _____ County of Employment: _____

PERSONAL STATEMENTS

Please provide detailed responses to the following questions. Attach your responses as a supporting document when submitting your application.

1. Please describe yourself and the reason you are applying for the Growing Home Fellowship?
2. Provide a brief description of your current role working with K-12 students. Why are you passionate about this work? What are your career goals?
3. What needs for leadership do you see in your community or what leadership would you like to provide?
4. Describe any past or current community involvement in one of the following areas: education, health & human services, community & economic development, arts & culture, and environmental stewardship.
5. Why do you want to live in Appalachian Ohio? Or why do you want to continue to make the region your home?

OPTIONAL STATEMENTS

6. Please provide any additional context you would like to share regarding your student loan debt or other financial circumstances. (optional)

Total Amount of Student Loan Debt (if applicable): \$_____

Student Loan Service Provider (if applicable): _____

7. Is there any additional information you would like the Growing Home Fellowship Review Committee to know about you? (optional)

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE FELLOWSHIP

Fellows will participate in a cohort model leadership development opportunity consisting of service, skill-building, and social opportunities in one of three ways: regional, local, or sector-based leadership.

Each fellow will be expected to attend and participate in no more than 10 program convenings and summits over the five years of the pilot program. Additionally, Fellows will be invited to join and participate in other FAO events at their convenience over the course of the fellowship.

Please rank your interest in the following cohorts. 1 being of most interest and 3 being of least interest.

_____ **Regional Leadership through FAO's I'm A Child of Appalachian Fund.**

Enhance the regional community by supporting grant and scholarship programs, capacity-building initiatives, events, and partnerships.

_____ **Local Community Development**

Enhance the local community by volunteering for and collaborating with local community foundations and/or other community-service organizations.

_____ **Sector-Based Programming Initiatives**

Enhance the education sector in a significantly expanded way and/or leverage educational expertise to strengthen the broader community.

*Application subject to change, pending pilot program status.

Certification: *In submitting this application, I certify the information provided is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. Falsification of information will result in termination of any scholarship granted.*

Applicant's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

To submit your application, please include the following documents as email attachments to: fellowships@ffao.org.

- _____ Completed Application;
- _____ Resume or CV;
- _____ Personal Statements Supporting Document