



Growing Home Fellowship: September 2022 Overview and Application

The Growing Home Fellowship leverages the potential of young adults, ages 18-35, in the K-12 workforce to advance sustained transformation in communities across Appalachian Ohio. This program seeks to identify emerging leaders who feel compelled to serve their communities and who are excited to connect with other passionate, committed young people across Appalachian Ohio. Fellows will be supported with financial stipends, leadership development experiences, and peer support.

Program Overview: Fellows agree to live, work, and volunteer through a meaningful leadership development program in Appalachian Ohio for a five-year period. This leadership development program will include service, skill-building, and increased social connections focused on one of the following topics: regional, local community development, or sector-based servant leadership.

Within each leadership cohort, fellows will be supported in developing their own outcomes-based leadership role. Foundation for Appalachian Ohio will work with fellows to define activities, outputs, and outcomes for the scope of these roles, seeking to ignite change and inspire possibility in our communities.

Fellows will participate in one of the following leadership 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.
- *In this cohort, fellows will work with the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio to expand and grow regional opportunities. Examples might include becoming a First Book ambassador, participating in grant review committees, helping scale region-wide initiatives, participating in FAO events, etc.*

2. Local Community Development

- Enhance the local community by volunteering for and collaborating with local community foundations and/or other community-service organizations.
- *In this cohort, fellows will partner with existing community foundations or community-service organizations to help drive local priorities while gaining leadership skills.*

3. Sector-Based Programming Initiatives

- Enhance the education sector in a significantly expanded way and/or leverage educational expertise to strengthen the broader community.
- *In this cohort, fellows will have creativity and flexibility in designing or furthering a leadership service project related to a special interest or area of expertise. Fellows already engaged in meaningful leadership service will have the opportunity to expand their roles, while fellows interested in starting a new leadership service project will receive support in doing so.*

In addition to their leadership cohort roles, 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.

Growing Home Fellowship Program Details

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

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

- Applicant is 18-35 years old (age as of December 31, 2022).
- Applicant resides within the 32 counties of Appalachian Ohio, has recently moved, **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 www.AppalachianOhio.org/GrowingHome for more details on employment eligibility.
- Applicant has a passion for developing their leadership skills and for Appalachian Ohio.

Additional Guidelines: Consideration will be given to identify leaders in areas of geographic need and in alignment with FAO's community fund counties.

Process: FAO has an appointed Fellowship Advisory Committee to recommend awards. Final approval is made by 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.

Application Instructions: Before beginning the application, please review the following steps:

1. Thoroughly read the Program Overview and Eligibility Requirements for the Growing Home Fellowship; this information can be found on the page above as well as on the [program webpage](#).
2. Create and collect the 3 application requirements: a completed application, an up-to-date resume or CV, and personal statements responding to the provided application questions. *Please note, **only complete applications with all 3 components will be considered and processed for review**. Partial applications will not be considered.*
3. Please save each application component using the following naming conventions:
 - last name, first name- GHF application
 - last name, first name- GHF resume
 - last name, first name- GHF personal statements
4. Submit your completed application to fellowships@ffao.org. The 3 application components should be included as email attachments.
5. After submitting the application, you can expect an email notification that your documents have been received. Applications will be collected at the end of each month and reviewed in the following month.

GROWING HOME FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICATION TYPE

☐ Retention Application:

- ☐ I currently live in Appalachian Ohio and have a job serving K-12 students. I have lived and worked in the region since prior to January 1, 2022.
For how long have you lived in Appalachian Ohio? _____

☐ Recruitment Application:

- ☐ I am moving to Appalachian Ohio for a job serving K-12 students.
Anticipated moving date: _____ Position to be held: _____
- ☐ I moved to Appalachian Ohio for a job serving K-12 students for the 2022-2023 school year.
Date moved to region: _____ Previous County of residence: _____
- ☐ I am applying for a job serving K-12 students in Appalachian Ohio.
Anticipated start date: _____ Position sought: _____
- ☐ I am a graduating student* from outside OR within the region and will graduate before June 2023. I intend to secure work serving K-12 students in Appalachian Ohio upon graduation.
Expected graduation date: _____ Anticipated position: _____
- ☐ I recently graduated* in May 2022 from a college or university outside OR within the region and just started K-12 work in Appalachian Ohio.

**Graduation from college or a university is a critical junction when young people choose to leave the region. As such, this program supports all graduating students as recruitment candidates, seeking to "grow home" and encouraging young leaders to choose the region upon graduation.*

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: _____
Last First Middle

Date of Birth: _____ Current Age: _____ County of Residence: _____

Gender: _____ (optional) Preferred Pronouns: _____ (optional) Ethnicity: _____ (optional)

Mailing Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Email*: _____ Phone: _____
(*FAO will use this email address to communicate with you) (Best number to contact you/leave message)

HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

Are you head of household? ☐ Yes ☐ No Do you have a significant other? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Name of Significant Other: _____ Occupation: _____

HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION (continued)

Names and age of dependents in the home:

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

What is your relation to this individual? ☐ Grandparent ☐ Parent ☐ Sibling ☐ 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: _____

POSTSECONDARY 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. Considering the three leadership cohort opportunities, which cohort interests you most? How do you envision using your role as a Growing Home Fellow to address the needs you see in your community? (In your response, please refer to the leadership cohort opportunities, as outlined in the program overview on page 1).
3. 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?
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. Within these cohorts, fellows will work to develop an outcomes-based leadership role addressing the needs they see in their communities.

In addition to their leadership cohort roles, 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 participate in other FAO events at their convenience over the course of the fellowship.

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

_____ **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.

- *In this cohort, fellows will work with the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio to expand and grow regional opportunities. Examples might include becoming a First Book ambassador, participating in grant review committees, helping scale region-wide initiatives, participating in FAO events, etc.*

_____ **Local Community Development**

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

- *In this cohort, fellows will partner with existing community foundations or community-service organizations to help drive local priorities while gaining leadership skills.*

_____ **Sector-Based Programming Initiatives**

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

- *In this cohort, fellows will have creativity and flexibility in designing or furthering a leadership service project related to a special interest or area of expertise. Fellows already engaged in meaningful leadership service will have the opportunity to expand their roles, while fellows interested in starting a new leadership service project will receive support in doing so.*

*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 email the following documents as pdf attachments to: fellowships@fao.org.

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