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# 700 LEADERS 2022

MANDELA WASHINGTON FELLOWSHIP  
FOR YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS

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# 2022 Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders

## Fellowship Application Process

### ELIGIBILITY

The Mandela Washington Fellowship is open to young African leaders who meet the following criteria:

- ▲ Are citizens of and residents in a [sub-Saharan African country](#);
- ▲ Are between the [ages of 25 and 35](#) at the time of application submission;
- ▲ Are [not U.S. citizens](#) or permanent residents of the United States;
- ▲ Are eligible to receive a United States [J-1 visa](#);
- ▲ Are not employees or immediate family members of employees of the U.S. Government;
- ▲ Are proficient in reading, writing, and speaking [English](#); and
- ▲ Are [not Alumni](#) of the Mandela Washington Fellowship.

### WHAT ARE THE CRITERIA FOR SELECTION?

- ▲ A proven record of leadership and accomplishment in public service, business, or civic engagement;
- ▲ A demonstrated commitment to public or community service, volunteerism, or mentorship;
- ▲ The ability to work cooperatively in diverse groups and respect the opinions of others;
- ▲ Strong social and communication skills;
- ▲ Demonstrated knowledge, interest, and professional experience in the sector/track selected;
- ▲ An energetic and positive attitude; and
- ▲ A commitment to return to Africa and apply leadership skills and training to benefit the applicant's country, community, or school after returning home.

### THE APPLICATION

The application will collect basic information and will include questions regarding applicants' professional and academic experience including professional background, educational background, honors and awards received, extracurricular and volunteer activities, and English language proficiency. As part of the application, applicants will also be asked to provide written responses to personal statements (essay questions). Additional elements, such as letters of recommendation or university transcripts, are [OPTIONAL](#) and may supplement your application.

### APPLICATION TIMELINE

August 18, 2021	Application opens
September 15, 2021	Application closes
November - January 2022	Semifinalists interviewed by local U.S. embassies and consulates
Late March 2022	Applicants are notified of their status
May 2022	Visa processing and pre-departure orientations for Finalists
June 2022	Fellowship begins in the United States



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