

Lafayette *fellowship*




AMBASSADE DE FRANCE
AUX ÉTATS-UNIS
*Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité*

Villa
Albertine 

 **france
science**

Inspiring the Next Generation of American Leaders to Renew the Transatlantic Relationship

- In 2026, we will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence and the French-American friendship.
- Since then, our two countries have worked together, fought side by side, and upheld shared values.
- The Lafayette Fellows will carry this legacy forward.

A Unique Opportunity

Access Top French Universities

- The Lafayette Fellowship will fund one year of master's-level study at France's most prestigious academic institutions for 20 to 30 American students.
- The Fellowship is open to both Francophone and non-Francophone candidates across STEM, the humanities, social sciences, and the arts.



A Unique Opportunity

Fellowship Benefits and Funding

- A €1,500 monthly stipend
- One year of tuition for eligible programs at a partner French institution.
- Application fee waivers
- Student visa fee waivers
- A round-trip flight to and from France
- Coverage of travel costs and activities related to the French-American Leadership Program

Partner Institutions

- Aix-Marseille Université*
- Université Côte d'Azur*
- Paris Cité University*
- Université Paris-Saclay*
- Université Paris Sciences & Lettres (PSL)*
- Sorbonne University*
- University of Bordeaux*
- Université Grenoble Alpes*
- University of Strasbourg*
- École Normale Supérieure (Lyon & Paris)
- Ecole Polytechnique
- HEC Paris
- ISAE-SUPAERO
- Sciences Po - Paris Climate School
- Toulouse School of Economics

*(*French universities in the 'Initiatives of Excellence' network, recognized for excellence in research, education, and innovation)*

Partner Institutions

- The Fellowship strives to spread awareness about France's internationally ranked universities and academic excellence programs taught in English.
- Our partner universities offer one-year and two-year master's programs as well as visiting opportunities (see the full list of eligible programs on our website).

Leadership Development Program

The Fellowship will encourage reflection on major global challenges, including:

- **Environmental Issues and Sustainable Transitions**
- **Health and Biotechnology**
- **Peace and Security**
- **Social Equity and Democratic Governance**
- **Digital Technologies**
- **Artificial Intelligence**

Leadership Development Program

Alongside academic coursework, fellows will benefit from the French-American Leadership Program.

Inspiration

Attend conferences and masterclasses in fields where France is at the forefront.

Research

Meet top researchers and visit leading laboratories and scientific facilities.

Culture

Participate in major cultural events, such as the Avignon Theater Festival.

Europe

Engage with European institutions to gain insight into Europe's role on the global stage.

A Lifelong Community



- Lafayette Fellows will receive mentorship support and be paired with prominent French public figures.
- Lafayette alumni will gather annually in one of the 10 U.S. cities where Villa Albertine has a presence.
- The Lafayette Fellows will become “ambassadors” of France and Europe and serve as key drivers of the French-American friendship for decades to come.

Selection Process

- **Core Profile**

Academic excellence (minimum 3.7 GPA), strong leadership potential, a commitment to social impact, and a genuine interest in France.

- **4 Local Selection Committees**

West Coast, Midwest, South, & East Coast to ensure geographical diversity.

- **A Final Jury**

Chaired by prominent academics and leading scholarship experts (e.g., IIE, Fulbright, Posse).

End of August - End of
November 2025

Application period

December 2025 - January
2026

Selection process: pre-selection, online
interviews, and final jury

February 2026

Announcement of laureates

July 2026

Arrival in France, reception at the Elysée, launch of
the French-American Leadership Program

Fall 2026

Start of master's-level programs

June 2027

“Au-revoir” ceremony at the Quai d’Orsay

Eligibility Criteria

- Be under the age of 27 (as of July 1, 2026)
- Be in possession of a bachelor's degree from a U.S. institution (completed between August 2023 and June 2026), with a GPA of no lower than 3.7.
- Knowledge of French is not required for acceptance into the Fellowship program.



Required Application Materials

Application materials include:

- Transcript
- Cover letter
- Resume
- Personal statement in a video format
- Three letters of recommendation (two academic and one extracurricular)

The awarding of the scholarship is conditional upon admission to one of the partner institutions.



Florence Botello

Attachée for Higher Education

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Education**

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For any questions, please contact:

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