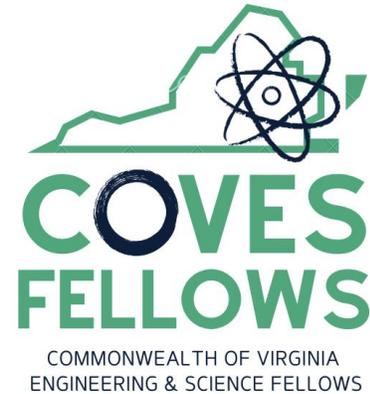


The Commonwealth of Virginia Engineering & Science Fellowship

The COVES Fellowship program aims to strengthen ties between the scientific community and state government in the Commonwealth of Virginia, while encouraging and equipping more scientists and engineers to be effective advisors for public policy in the state of Virginia.



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Commonwealth of Virginia Engineering and Science (COVES) Fellowship is a new 12-week fellowship program of the Virginia Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine (VASEM). Graduate student and postdoc fellows will serve as science advisors in a variety of possible placements, including legislative offices, executive agencies, or prominent companies and nonprofits in the state of Virginia. Fellows will gain experience by serving their host office and performing relevant tasks such as researching, drafting, and revising relevant policies. Fellows will also be paired with a VASEM member who will serve as an experienced science policy mentor throughout the fellowship.

ABOUT THE VIRGINIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING & MEDICINE

VASEM is a resource for independent expertise to inform and assist with science and technology policy matters facing Virginia. VASEM is comprised of elected members of one of the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine and other key individuals that reside and work throughout Virginia. Its nonpartisan network of experts provides rigorous analytical and scientific support to inform policy decisions that are critical to the future of the Commonwealth.

HOW THE FELLOWSHIP WORKS

The COVES Fellowship is a 12-week program that places graduate student Fellows in a legislative office, executive agency, or policy office in a company or nonprofit in Virginia. COVES Fellows will be current doctoral students from participating universities across the Commonwealth of Virginia, selected based on career interests, desire to learn, and scientific integrity. Fellows will be matched to offices who have agreed to accept a Fellow based on mutual interest and placement availability. During the first week of the Fellowship, Fellows will attend a science policy bootcamp and orientation that will offer training in science policy and communication and will provide an introduction to governance and policy-making in the Commonwealth of Virginia. In addition to their work in policy offices, COVES Fellows will be paired with a mentor from VASEM and will participate in VASEM briefings, committee meetings, and the annual summit. Inaugural fellows will serve from June through August 2020 and receive a summer stipend of \$8,500.



IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2019-2020 COVES FELLOWSHIP

January 2020	COVES Fellowship applications open to students at participating Universities
February 2020	COVES application deadlines (varies by University)
March 2020	Top three Fellowship applications from each participating University submitted to COVES Steering Committee
April 2020	COVES Fellowship 2020 Cohort announced
May 2020	COVES Fellows notified of placements in host offices Fellowship orientation and bootcamp in Richmond, VA (<i>May 18-20</i>)
May - Aug 2020	COVES Fellowship duration
Aug 2020	Fellowship Convocation Event in Richmond, VA