



## **OBJECTIVE**

The Kansas Democratic Party Political Fellowship (KDP Fellowship) offers mentorship, leadership, and campaign training for Democrats across the state of Kansas. Leaders in Democratic politics are involved in all aspects of the program to develop and train the next generation of leaders.

Instructional sessions take place during four weekend sessions. Each KDP Fellow is expected to work in conjunction with the KDP office, a local Democratic organization or a campaign for a minimum of 20 hours per month. As a capstone project, KDP Fellows continue development and implementation of a project, or give significant attention to a campaign.

## **GOALS**

The goal of the Fellowship is to develop leadership from the emerging Kansas electorate in politically strategic areas of rural and urban Kansas. We mentor and grow this Democratic talent as we foster an in-depth understanding of the political process, strengthen the depth of the party, and build up local progressive organizations. At the conclusion of the experience, each KDP Fellow will be equipped to significantly contribute to issue-based or political campaigns and participate in the decision-making and management of local and county Democratic and partner organizations.

Training sessions include:

- Examining the challenges and qualities of leadership necessary in politics
- Exploring the current political landscape
- Developing and executing a successful campaign strategy
- Building a fundraising program to raise the necessary funds to win a campaign
- Creating and communicating messages that educate and motivate others to action
- Understanding the importance of a winning field strategy in Kansas' political environment
- Networking with current political leaders, and current and former campaign staff

## **FELLOWSHIP REQUIREMENTS AND QUALIFICATIONS**

We're seeking a diverse group of dynamic individuals who view politics as an agent for change. Applications are sought from those interested in enhancing their leadership and political skills in order to better serve their communities, constituencies or causes.

### **KDP Fellow Qualifications**

- Registered Democrats with an interest in state and local politics
- Demonstrated dedication to the values of the party – a basic belief that we are greater together than we are on our own; that our state succeeds when everyone has a fair shot, does their fair share, and plays by the same rules
- Experience in community service
- Self-directed individuals with a desire to enhance personal leadership skills
- Desire to influence the political process
- Long-term interest in political campaigns



## SCHEDULE AND COMMITMENT

There are four sessions between March and June with a celebratory wrap-up in July. Most weekends begin on Friday evening and conclude Sunday afternoon, and are based out of the KDP headquarters in Topeka. Full participation is required. Each weekend includes experiential learning and personal portfolio development to complete before the next session. There are significant opportunities for connecting with leaders in the party and involvement with party events. Scheduled training weekends are

- March 22 - March 24
- April 26 - April 28
- May 31 - June 2
- June 21 - June 23
- July 27 Celebratory Fundraiser

The KDP Fellowship is a substantial time commitment. Participants are expected to attend all weekend sessions and fully participate in all activities. Fellows are also expected to complete a minimum of 20 hours per month of involvement in local politics outside of assignments. All expenses associated with weekend trainings, including mileage, are reimbursed. Fellows receive \$500 a month for the duration of the four weekend training sessions. The final session is a celebratory, fundraising event.

**Applications will be accepted between December 1, 2018 and February 15, 2019.** A completed application form, cover letter and resume, photograph and 2 letters of reference may all be submitted online. Interviews will be conducted the last weekend of February. Fellowship awards will be announced the first week of March.

Send inquiries to the Fellowship Director by emailing [Fellows@KansasDems.org](mailto:Fellows@KansasDems.org).

Find the application at [KansasDems.org/Fellowship](http://KansasDems.org/Fellowship).