



WMI Fellowship Program: Basics 101

How to Start a Fellowship in Your Nation

What is a WMI Fellowship?

A WMI Fellowship is a group of Scholars, both Students and Graduates who are committed to supporting one another and creating positive change beyond their individual communities – reaching every corner of their nation.

What is the purpose of having a WMI Fellowship in my country?

The WMI Fellowship program was created to connect Scholars who have been brought together through the Educate (scholarship) element of the Scholar's Journey. The program provides Scholars with the unique opportunity to expand their social and professional networks. These groups are founded by Scholars and have led to the building of support systems that provide networking, mentorship and the hosting of group community service projects and activities throughout nations.

Who can start a WMI Fellowship?

Any Scholar (Student or Graduate) can take on the initiative to start a Fellowship within their home nation. There is a limit of one WMI Fellowship per nation.

What WMI Fellowships already exist?

There are currently seven WMI Fellowships. They are located in Ghana, Kenya, Nepal, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.

What is the benefit of being a member of a WMI Fellowship?

As a Scholar, you will have the opportunity to not only be a leader within your community and at your university, but also for your nation. These national groups bring together Scholars from all academic areas and diverse backgrounds. Together, WMI Fellowships work to create unity among all Scholars in the nation and find opportunities to do more through the combined knowledge and experience of members.

Who is in charge of the WMI Fellowship?

You are! Fellowships are inspired, created, designed, managed and lead by Scholars. The most successful WMI Fellowships are those with a leadership structure, clear responsibilities, and groups that make an annual calendar of events/meetings.

Social change through education and community building

Does WMI provide guidance and support to Fellowships?

Yes, all Fellowships receive mentoring from the Graduate Scholar Coordinator. Nicole Schmitz is the Graduate Scholar Coordinator and her email is nicole@wellsmountain.com.

What types of meetings and events do WMI Fellowship organize and participate in?

The sky is the limit! Together with other Scholars you create a vision for the group and make an annual schedule. Some past Fellowship activities have included:

- Group community service activities
- Professional skill building workshops
- Hosting guest speakers
- Networking events
- Leadership planning meetings
- Fun social activities to get to know one another and welcome new members
- Group planning and travel to the Dream Big Conference

How will a WMI Fellowship be successful when Scholars live in different parts of the country?

This is a common question. First, remember, the goal of a WMI Fellowship is to create a support network for all Scholars in your country. WMI Fellowships can host online meetings and also in-person meetings. We encourage all members to try and meet at least one time per year as a large group. For all other events, as long as at least two Scholars are involved, you can count it as an official meeting/event.

I want to start a WMI Fellowship in my nation, what do I do next?

1. Connect with other Scholars and tell them about why you would like to start a WMI Fellowship. If you need help connecting with other Scholars, write to nicole@wellsmountain.com.
2. Identify at least two other Scholars who will help you apply to create a WMI Fellowship.
3. Together develop responses for the questions on the Forming a WMI Fellowship application.
4. Submit one [Forming a WMI Fellowship](#) application and wait for Nicole Schmitz to review your plan.
5. Once approved by WMI you should begin planning to host your first in-person meeting!
6. Upon completion of your first in-person meeting, complete a [Fellowship Meeting Report](#) and your group will soon be inaugurated as the newest Fellowship nation.

If you would like to learn more about WMI Fellowships or have questions write to nicole@wellsmountain.com.