



Opportunity Fund Fellowship Call

Applications Due October 15, 2022 // Email questions to fellowships@benton.org

About Us: The Benton Institute for Broadband & Society's goal is to bring open, affordable and high-performance broadband to all people in the United States to ensure a thriving democracy. We believe that communications policy—rooted in the values of access, equity, and diversity—has the power to deliver new opportunities and strengthen communities. For 40 years, the Benton Institute has provided day-to-day support and resources to the community of people who care about “broadband for all.”

About the Fellowship: Through the [Marjorie & Charles Benton Opportunity Fund](#), we aim to support a new generation of broadband scholars, practitioners, and advocates. We welcome applications from people working on broadband access, adoption, equity, and use. For instance, you may be working on issues of infrastructure or digital inclusion, but are interested in dedicating some of your time to policy-focused research and writing. Or you may be a doctoral candidate ready to begin fieldwork and collect data on the impact of broadband access on health or education outcomes.

We are interested in supporting a range of projects that can better inform our current or emerging broadband policy debates, either through critical research about the future of the internet in our communities or the development of best practices and tools to advance our field's work. Proposed projects can yield either practice or research-focused publications or multimedia content. Some potential topics include:

- How are grassroots organizations and coalitions working to advance digital equity?
- How can we best measure and map the availability and quality of broadband?
- What state and local policy levers can influence broadband availability and adoption?
- How does improved access to broadband impact local economies and communities?
- What resources and information do state legislators or government agencies need to ensure universal broadband access and adoption?

This is by no means an exhaustive list and you should feel free to propose other ideas of critical importance to our field. We especially welcome applications that focus on historically marginalized communities. Fellowships will range from \$5,000-\$20,000, with a tenure ranging from 6 months to 2 years.

Application Guidelines: To apply, please submit a resume or CV (no more than 3 pages) and a project proposal (no more than 1000 words). The proposal should include:

- A research question or project topic and an explanation of how your project will support the goals of the fellowship program
- A description of the research methods or the work you'll do over the fellowship tenure
- A rough timeline and budget
- Proposed outputs (reports/toolkits/webinars/podcasts)

Submit the documents as PDFs by email to fellowships@benton.org by October 15, 2022.

Contact: Please feel free to email us (fellowships@benton.org) if you have questions about the fellowship, your eligibility, and the application process.