

A HEALTH LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The **Milbank Fellows Program (MFP)** is a year-long leadership program for senior executive branch and legislative state leaders who are committed to improving population health in their communities.

Through this program, fellows will:

- Gain new knowledge about specific population health issues, interdisciplinary health and human services systems, and evidence-based approaches to improving population health;
- Expand their personal insight and leadership capacities in support of defining and advancing a population health vision and agenda;
- Create meaningful connections with a network of colleagues, both from within the cohort and the Milbank State Leadership Network, so they can leverage their new knowledge and capacities to take action in their states.

Convened by the Milbank Memorial Fund, in partnership with the Colorado Health Institute and the Public Leadership Group, and featuring guest faculty who bring both expertise and applied experience in state policymaking, this program will support up to 24 participants as they address challenges and opportunities in today's complex health policy environment. **The Fund will cover all costs of sessions and materials, including three in-person meetings.**

Dannette Smith, Chief Executive Officer, Nebraska
Department of Health and Human Services



"I have thoroughly enjoyed the sessions and have especially valued the opportunities to connect in person to share ideas, develop camaraderie, and confirm that we are not alone in this complex work. I have been able to apply strategies and learning from Milbank Fellows Program in ways that make sense in my state."

Program Format and Key Dates and Activities for the 2023–2024 Milbank Fellows Program Cohort

Throughout the year-long program, Fellows will participate in three highly interactive in-person meetings and a series of virtual learning events where they will learn from one another and other senior state leaders and health policy experts. Fellows will also have access to Milbank's population health and public sector leadership resources, as well as individualized state-to-state technical assistance.

Participants will join a learning cycle that will include:

- A Fall meeting, **September 20–22, 2023, in Salt Lake City, Utah**
- Virtual Fellowship Seminars: a series of one-hour Zoom meetings between **November 2023 and May 2024**
- A Winter Meeting, **December 6–8, 2023, in Austin, Texas**
- Final Fellowship Meeting in **June 2024** (Location and Date TBD)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Milbank Memorial Fund has engaged the Public Leadership Group to support the Milbank Fellows Program. If you are interested in participating in the Milbank Fellows Program and would like to learn more, please contact Gretchen Hammer at gretchen.hammer@publicleadership.org

If you would like to apply, please complete the [online nomination form](#) by **June 16, 2023**.

The Milbank Fellows Program seeks state leaders who have:

- **Diverse backgrounds and lived experience**, notably including leaders of color, members of the LGBTQIA+ community, and people with disabilities.
- **Interest in acquiring new knowledge** and sharing their own subject matter expertise on key areas of population health policy and program administration.
- **Commitment to achieving health equity**, with a focus on communities on communities of color.
- **Curiosity** and enthusiasm about engaging with others.
- **Interest in self-reflection** and development of new insights.
- **Capacity to be present** during the program's in-person and virtual meetings.

Participants will come from a variety of backgrounds, including:

Senior executives who are part of a governor's cabinet, lead state departments, or oversee entire divisions within a state department (e.g., health commissioner, budget director, public health officer)



Legislators who hold formal leadership positions in key committees in the House and Senate (e.g. Chair or Co-Chair of Health and Human Services Committee, Chair or Co-Chair of Ways and Means Committee, etc.)



Nomination and Selection Process

The Fund will select up to 24 participants for the 2023–2024 Milbank Fellows Program cohort. Candidates can apply for the program by completing this [brief online form](#) and submitting their resume by June 16, 2023.

Selection Criteria

When selecting participants for the Milbank Fellows Program, the Fund will prioritize nominees who demonstrate:

- A commitment to the use of evidence, best practices, and lived experience as a means of addressing social drivers of health, reducing racial and other health disparities, and creating equal opportunity for all populations.
- A focus on impact, with an emphasis on developing and implementing innovative, practical solutions that will demonstrably improve the health of people and communities.
- Inquisitiveness, as evidenced by interest in continuous learning and development of insight.
- Collegiality and receptivity, as exemplified by eagerness around exchange of ideas and interest in building lasting relationships with colleagues.

Jennifer Schultz, Chair, Human Services Finance Division,
Minnesota House of Representatives



“The relationships, experience, and knowledge I gained as part of the MFP was extremely valuable. I learned leadership and negotiating skills that have been useful in my role as a committee chair. The information shared by fellows from different branches of government was useful as we identified barriers to passing and implementing health care reforms. I was also able to introduce model legislation in Minnesota that was highlighted by the the program. Overall, I highly recommend participation by state legislators and agency staff.”

Additionally, the Fund is committed to building a diverse cohort of participants that includes:

- **Leaders with diverse backgrounds and lived experience** – we strongly encourage nominations of leaders of color, members of the LGBTQIA+ community, and people with disabilities
- **Regional representation** – we strive to have participants from many states and regions
- **A range of political perspectives** – we strive to include an array of viewpoints
- **Position and role** – we strive to have a good balance of legislative and executive participants

About the Milbank Fellows Program

The Fund believes that state leaders are the drivers of innovation and improvement in population health. We are committed to equipping and supporting leaders in the executive and legislative branches of state government with the knowledge, leadership capacities, and connections to navigate the complexities of systems and health policy to advance population health. The Milbank Fellows Program is our newest offering to support state population health leaders.

The Milbank Memorial Fund is a nonpartisan, trusted foundation focused on improving the health of communities and health equity. Our work is guided by core values to collaboration and community; diversity, equity, and inclusion; humility and optimism; objectivity and non-partisanship; and stewardship and leadership. For more than 100 years, the Fund has connected leaders with the expertise and lived experience of policymakers and the evidence that they need to advance policies and practices that improve health. For more information, visit www.milbank.org.

Relevant to participation in the MFP, we invite you to read the Fund's [Racial Equity Statement of Purpose](#), in which the organization apologizes for some of its past actions that have perpetuated systemic racism and outlines actions that reflect its commitment to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion, both within and outside the organization.

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