

**From:** Russell, Gregory Dylan <[russell@sog.unc.edu](mailto:russell@sog.unc.edu)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 17, 2023 9:43 AM  
**To:** Eric Peterson <[Eric.Peterson@hillsboroughnc.gov](mailto:Eric.Peterson@hillsboroughnc.gov)>  
**Subject:** UNC School of Government Lead for NC Fellowship Program | APPLY NOW!

Dear Eric,

My name is Dylan Russell, and I am the Executive Director of Lead for North Carolina (LFNC) at the UNC School of Government. LFNC is a fellowship program that aims to create the next generation of local government leaders in North Carolina. LFNC places recent college graduates in high-impact positions in local governments across the state to work on transformative community projects. Fellows receive up to three weeks of training prior to placement and ongoing training and support from the UNC School of Government and our partner organizations. Check out [this video](#) to learn more about the fellowship program or check out one of our program's alumni being interviewed by [CBS This Morning](#)!

**I'm reaching out to you because I think Town of Hillsborough would make a great host site for a Lead for North Carolina Fellow and your jurisdiction is eligible to receive a subsidy to host a fellow.** Thanks to the generosity of our funders (most notably the State Employees' Credit Union Foundation, AmeriCorps, The Anonymous Trust, Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, and State Farm), we provide subsidies to all participating local government host sites. For the most distressed communities, the cost to host a Lead for NC Fellow is as low as \$10,000. ***Again, the most distressed communities will receive significant subsidies to hire a full time fellow to increase your government's capacity and work on projects you've identified as a priority in your organization.*** The exact subsidy amount will be determined based on the total need of the jurisdictions that apply. Fellows receive a living stipend and competitive benefits from UNC-Chapel Hill while working at your organization.

Our fellows have been working on a range of projects from helping local governments navigate ARP funding to ADA compliance. Some of our fellows are housed in the manager's office while other fellows work in departments like public works, planning and zoning, or parks and recreation. ***Please consider forwarding this message to your department heads!*** Last year's cohort of fellows already secured over \$72,000,000 in grants to support key community initiatives. Our managers estimated cost savings for the jurisdiction at \$1.8 million because of their work. I encourage you to learn more about the work these young people are doing by [checking out this impact report](#).

*This year we are targeting up to 12 jurisdictions for a finance-specific track. Fellows will train and receive ongoing support from UNC School of Government Faculty members Kara Millonzi and Rebecca Badgett on finance-related projects. Fellows will receive a toolkit of best financial policies and practices, especially as it relates to compliance with ARP funding. These Lead for NC Fellows will address significant needs in finance offices.*

I hope you will consider hosting a fellow. There are plenty of young people that would greatly benefit from working under your leadership next year.

***The deadline to apply is February 8, 2022. The application only takes five minutes to complete. You can access the application [here](https://bit.ly/hostLeadforNC). ([bit.ly/hostLeadforNC](https://bit.ly/hostLeadforNC))***

Please navigate to these links to access an [informational flyer](#) and a [frequently asked questions webpage](#) for you to consider. We will be hosting optional informational sessions on the following dates: Come learn more about what Lead for North Carolina can do for your local government!

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns or if you want to find a time to discuss our fellowship program ([russell@sog.unc.edu](mailto:russell@sog.unc.edu)). Thank you for everything you do in service of our state and local communities.

Best,

Dylan Russell  
Executive Director  
Lead for North Carolina  
UNC School of Government at Chapel Hill