

Frequently Asked Questions **Class of 2025 Applications**

Q&A Sessions/Informational Webinar

Join us for one of two informational webinars to ask questions about the application process, program timeline, and hear from Fellowship alumni about their experience.

[CLICK HERE](#) to register for Nov 21, 2024 | 2PM CT webinar

[CLICK HERE](#) to register for Jan 14, 2025 | 2PM CT webinar

1. What is the acceptance rate?

- The acceptance rate is approximately 50%. We select approximately 20 applicants and receive around 30-40 applications per year.

2. What are the in-person meeting dates for the program?

- Dates and locations of in-person meeting are as follows, but subject to change:
 - In-person Training #1 – San Juan, Puerto Rico – April 7-11, 2025
 - In-person Training #2 – TBD – Summer 2025
 - In-person Training #3 – NALCAB National Conference – September 15-17, 2025
 - In-person Training #4 – Graduation in San Antonio, TX – November 3-7, 2025

3. How many days are the in-person training meetings?

- Each of the four in-person meetings will last for one week (5 days), requiring travel on Sunday and returning home on a Friday afternoon.
- Training #3 – NALCAB National Conference – will require travel on Sunday and departure after 5:00 PM on Wednesday (3 days)

4. If we have prior travel plans that conflict with any of the in-person trainings, would it be possible to attend virtually?

- This can be discussed on a case-by-case basis, but we highly recommend attending in-person. Please reach out to fellowship@nalcab.org for more details.



PETE
GARCIA

Community Economic
Development Fellowship

5. How much is the travel cost commitment from each Fellows' organization? Can you give me an idea?

- The estimated total travel cost for each fellow's organization will range from \$6,000 to \$7,000. This includes approximately \$250 or more per night for hotel accommodations and around \$400 to \$600 for flights for each in-person training session. Please note that NALCAB will provide breakfast and lunch during these sessions.

6. Would hotels have a group discount? If so, would NALCAB facilitate that?

- Yes, NALCAB will reserve a hotel block for all fellows attending the training sessions. Fellows will have the option to pay for their hotel stay at check-in or receive a link/authorization form for upfront payment.

7. Can the application essay be more than 2000 words?

- The system has a word limit and won't allow you to submit more than 2000 words, but you are welcome to attach additional documents to the application or email them to fellowship@nalcab.org

8. To whom should the letter of recommendation be addressed?

- The letter of recommendation should be addressed to NALCAB or to the NALCAB Pete Garcia Fellowship Team.

9. Can two people from the same organization participate in the Fellowship?

- Yes, multiple applicants from the same organization can apply to the fellowship. However, we will only select a maximum of 2 fellows per organization. Both applications must be in the top 5 for both individuals to get accepted, if not, only the one with the higher score will be selected.

10. Will we always work in the same groups?

- No. We try to make sure you are interactive with everyone in your fellowship, so you will not be working in the same group.

11. If someone needs to drop out of the Fellowship, would the fee be refunded?

- This would be worked out on a case-by-case basis. In the past, we have given a partial refund if it is early in the program, though we discourage this as it is not fair to the other participants and can disrupt the cohesiveness of the group. When applying for the Fellowship, please take into account the time commitment necessary to complete the program.



12. Assuming all sessions will be in English, do you have any tools that you are using or plan to use for those who are not fluent in English?

- Yes, we use both Spanish and English in our sessions. All activities are in English and participation/discussion can be in both English and Spanish, since that is the language that some Fellows feel more comfortable with. The NALCAB Fellowship Staff is bilingual, and we are always happy to translate if needed.

13. Is it necessary to request an interpreter in advance?

- If needed, this can be discussed further once fellows are selected since it depends on whether all fellows understand Spanish. Many of the presentations are done in English, but your participation can be in Spanish. The NALCAB Fellowship Staff is bilingual, and we are always happy to translate if needed.

14. Would it be possible to see past leadership project examples?

- Yes, please see below for examples of past community development projects.
 - [Example 1](#)
 - [Example 2](#)
 - [Example 3](#)
 - [Example 4](#)

15. Is the presentation of the community development project in English or Spanish or both?

- Your project can be done in the language you feel most comfortable using. Fellows will often use/understand both languages and many of the activities and participation can be in Spanish since that is the language that some feel more comfortable with. We encourage that the final project presentation is in English so all attendees can understand, but we can always accommodate if needed.

16. Can Fellows collaborate on the final Community Development Project?

- Fellows can help and provide feedback on each other's projects, but final projects must be completed and submitted individually.

17. How specific should we be in the Community Development Project? Should we talk about potential permits and licenses needed? Or just a general idea?



- You should provide as much detail as you need to support your project concept in the allotted presentation time. Detailed information will be provided once selected for the program.

18. Is the final presentation of the Community Development Project done in front of all attendees at the NALCAB National Conference or in front of a select group? Who will make the final decision for the award?

- The projects are presented during the last week of training, which is not during the National Conference. The presentations will be in front of current fellows, a group of NALCAB staff, NALCAB partners and possible funders. Current fellows will score the project and NALCAB staff and other attendees will provide feedback.

19. What happens if for some reason the project is not presented at the end of the program?

- Presentation of the project is a requirement for graduation from the Fellowship. If a fellow is unable to present at the conference, we will address the situation on a case-by-case basis and explore alternative options for presentation.