



National Security Education Program

Service Requirement Information & Examples

Congress specifically - and uniquely - structured the National Security Education Program (NSEP) to focus on the combined issues of language proficiency, national security, and the needs of the federal workforce. NSEP initiatives, including the Boren Scholarships and Fellowships program, are designed to attract, recruit, and train future federal leaders. Towards that aim, Boren Scholars and Fellows make a commitment to working in the federal government for a minimum of one year.

The NSEP Service Requirement stipulates that an award recipient work in the Federal Government in a position with national security responsibilities. The Departments of Defense, Homeland Security, State, and any element of the Intelligence Community are priority agencies. If an award recipient demonstrates to NSEP that no appropriate position is available in one of these agencies, the award recipient must seek to fulfill the requirement in a position with national security responsibilities in any Federal department or agency. Approval of service outside of a priority agency is contingent upon satisfactory demonstration of a full and good faith effort in accordance with conditions established by NSEP. If an award recipient demonstrates to NSEP that no appropriate position is available in the Federal Government, the award recipient may petition NSEP to fulfill the requirement in an education position directly related to the language[s] or area[s] studied by the individual under NSEP. The education option is available only after exhausting all opportunities to fulfill the requirement in the Federal Government in accordance with conditions established by NSEP.

The duration of the NSEP Service Requirement is one year or the duration of assistance provided under the program, whichever is longer. Boren Scholars must begin fulfilling the service requirement within three years of graduation. Boren Fellows must begin fulfilling the service requirement within two years of graduation. Deferrals are considered on a case-by-case basis for Boren Scholars and Fellows who pursue approved, qualified further education, which includes, but is not limited to, enrollment in any degree-granting, accredited institution of higher education worldwide.

While it is the recipient's responsibility to find government employment, there are a number of resources available to facilitate the process:

- NSEP staff is available to assist Boren Scholars and Fellows in their job search efforts.
- NSEPnet (nsepnet.org) allows Boren recipients to view job postings, post their resumé, connect with potential federal employers, and receive application tips.
- The Boren Forum (borenforum.org) is an independent 501(c)(3) organization for NSEP alumni. The Boren Forum sponsors an online message board and job postings, professional and social events, a newsletter, and an annual job information session.
- Several special hiring authorities, including NDAA FY 13, aid Boren recipients in the federal hiring process.

Boren Scholars and Fellows should also use other widely available employment resources, such as college and university career offices and usajobs.gov.



Service Requirement

Examples of Fulfillment

Many NSEP Award recipients have worked in the following priority agencies. Work in these offices will always fulfill the service requirement.

Department of Defense
Department of Homeland Security

Department of State
U.S. Intelligence Community (17 agencies)

In addition, NSEP Award recipients have fulfilled their service in appropriate offices within the following additional agencies, among many others. This list is not intended to be comprehensive or exhaustive. *Work in these offices is evaluated on a case-by-case basis, and it should not be assumed that work for any of the listed organizations will count toward the service requirement.*

African Development Foundation
Agency for International Development (USAID)
Center for Disease Control and Prevention
Congressional Budget Office
Department of Agriculture
Department of Commerce
Department of Education
Department of Energy
Department of Health & Human Services
Department of Justice
Department of Labor
Department of the Interior
Department of the Treasury
Department of Veterans Affairs

Environmental Protection Agency
Federal Reserve System
Government Accountability Office
Inter-American Foundation
Millennium Challenge Corporation
National Aeronautics & Space Administration
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
Overseas Private Investment Corporation
Peace Corps
U.S. Institute of Peace
U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. Senate
White House



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