

## **Democracy and Electoral Integrity Completion Fellowship** **Guidelines for 2025-2026 Fellowship Year**

**Applications and Letter of Rec due by: December 4, 2024 (11:59pm)**

The Laney Graduate School, The Carter Center’s Democracy Program, and Emory University Office of Global Strategy and Initiatives’ Atlanta Global Partnerships Program will support one Democracy and Electoral Integrity completion fellowship in the **2025-2026** academic year for doctoral candidates in the humanities and/or social sciences with a strong preference for political science.

The Democracy and Electoral Integrity Fellow will conduct research to support The Carter Center’s Democracy Program and Emory University, collaborating with the Electoral Integrity Project (EIP). The EIP is one of the leading academic data and research initiatives focusing on the democratic quality of elections around the globe and how they can be improved. The EIP is an independent academic project directed by Dr. Holly Ann Garnett and Prof. Toby S. James. It is housed at the Royal Military College of Canada/Queen’s University in Canada and the University of East Anglia in the UK. The Carter Center is a partner of the project. The EIP maintains a cross-national data set of expert perceptions and supports innovative and policy-relevant research comparing elections worldwide. The dataset uses expert perception surveys to provide valid, reliable, and generalizable empirical evidence regarding electoral integrity. It also supports a research community by engaging scholarly and practitioner networks drawn from diverse disciplines, theoretical approaches, global regions, international organizations, and methodological techniques to advance knowledge of electoral integrity.

The Office of Global Strategy and Initiatives (GSI) supports, promotes, and expands Emory University’s global engagement. The university’s strong international network of academic, non-profit, and governmental partners stems from its unique advantage of being in the globally connected City of Atlanta. Recognizing that Atlanta is a gateway to the world, the Office of Global Strategy and Initiatives has launched Atlanta Global Partnerships to facilitate and steward conditions for synergy among groups engaging in international work within the Emory and Atlanta communities. Atlanta Global Partnerships seeks to implement and support student-focused programs connecting Emory and Atlanta’s global communities through enriched learning experiences. The Democracy and Electoral Integrity Fellowship is one of the student engagement programs offered by the Atlanta Global Partnerships.

The fellowship is a completion fellowship, and the fellow is expected to complete their dissertation during the fellowship year. The successful candidate will receive a stipend for 9 months (September - May) along with a 100% subsidy for the Emory University Student Health Insurance Plan (EUSHIP). The first payment will be distributed at the end of September. The stipend amount will be \$28,100 paid over 9-months.

### **Responsibilities**

The Fellow will work approximately 20 hours per week (below are hour estimates for how to expect to balance your time each week) under the supervision of the of The Carter Center’s Democracy Program

Director and Data Scientist, to shape and support the EIP collaboration, including the following responsibilities:

The Carter Center (10-15 hours/week)

- Support and further research related to electoral integrity, election management, international observations, measurement, and other related topics with the guidance of the Democracy Program Director and team
- Provide summaries of current academic research and methods related to elections, electoral integrity, democracy promotion, and related topics
- Leverage existing data (e.g., PEI, VDEM) to provide address and help answer timely, policy-relevant questions

EIP (5-10 hours/week):

- Oversee and check the work of undergraduate assistants regarding election lists and expert lists
- Send survey invitations and reminders
  - Update the EIP team regularly on the progress of survey sending and responses
- Respond to emails and queries about the Perception of Electoral Integrity (PEI) Index and survey
- Assist in cleaning of data for public release
- Assist with ‘Year in Elections’ Report
  - Assist with presentations on the ‘Year in Elections Report’
- Take part in EIP fellowships scheme, including seminars and other opportunities other assignments as directed.

Applicants must meet the eligibility requirements listed below. Applications will be evaluated based on their methodological qualifications, research interests, and the likelihood that the applicant’s research focus will produce mutually beneficial collaborations. The goals of this fellowship include enhancing the applicant’s technological, coordinating, and administrative skills; methodological experience in supporting quantitative and qualitative research on democracy and electoral integrity; and research opportunities related to democracy and elections in transitional states. The ideal applicant will be proactive and comfortable working within a dynamic environment.

### **Eligibility and Evaluation**

Students beyond the fifth year may use the Democracy and Electoral Integrity Fellowship to extend their support. To be considered for the fellowship, applicants must:

- Be a full-time doctoral student in good standing, both in the Laney Graduate School and in their program
- Be in candidacy during the fellowship
- Have evidence of outstanding academic performance

If a prospective applicant has another fellowship or funding source: please confirm in advance before applying that additional funding from the Democracy and Electoral Integrity fellowship is accepted under the terms of that other funding source.

### **Application Procedure**

A complete application must include:

1. **Application Coversheet (A) and Fellowship Coversheet & Skills Sheet(B)** (both are attached at the end of this document). [Please submit both together under “**Coversheet**” upload field as one file]
2. **Statement of purpose to explain interest**, including:
  - a. how this fellowship may enhance the applicant’s future career;

- b. a brief description of the dissertation, thesis, and/or research project, including progress thus far;
  - c. coordinating and organizing experience
3. **Curriculum vitae**
4. **A letter of recommendation from an Emory faculty member**, preferably the dissertation director or another faculty member who has worked with the applicant and can speak to his or her progress on the dissertation and/or performance on previous graduate assistantships. The letter will be uploaded by your recommender into the LaneyConnect system via an email link you generate through your application.

IF THIS IS YOUR FIRST FELLOWSHIP (non-DTF) APPLICATION SUBMISSION: The LaneyConnect system will allow you to select your recommender and they will receive email notification of your request. If you already had a fellowship LoR submitted: the system will populate your application with your previously submitted LoR. Your recommender only needs to submit the letter once this year across all fellowships (only exception is DTF, which has a separate process). This means that your letter writer only needs to write one general letter of support and should not mention any specific fellowship (unless you intend to apply for one fellowship only this year).

**Please note that the system will generally take between 1-3 hours from your submission to generate the email link to your letter writer. So please plan accordingly. All files (including the LoR) must be submitted by the posted deadline.**

### **Application Submission**

All nominations and applications, including supporting materials, will be uploaded using LaneyConnect (new application portal): <https://laneyconnect.emory.edu/manage/login?realm=&r=/portal/laney-connect-hub>. The portal may not yet be active but when it is activated:

1. Select the appropriate fellowship from the list and follow the upload fields. The application will not let you proceed until you upload all the necessary materials. And it will not save incomplete applications so please be sure to have all materials and information ready to upload/complete.
2. If you are applying for multiple fellowships, you may select several at one time and submit all materials for the fellowships you intend to apply for (it will not save progress, however, so you must complete your session). Or you may access the portal later and add additional fellowship(s), if eligible, and submit required files for the new fellowship(s) selected (and click "Update" in the online form to complete this process).

In the LaneyConnect application portal, if the applicant has already submitted files that are standard requirements (e.g., transcript), they will not submit it again for a different fellowship. It will pull from the already uploaded file and be included in all fellowship application(s) that require this file. This means that students will submit standard files only once and can focus on documents such as the 'statement of purpose' which will be specific for each fellowship that requires this document. If you have questions about using LaneyConnect, please contact us at: [LGS.profdev@emory.edu](mailto:LGS.profdev@emory.edu). You will need to upload the application items **as PDF files**

### **Terms of Fellowship**

Fellows who are awarded and accept the fellowship award agree to commit to the course teaching load or the general hours/week and responsibilities as described in the sections above. Fellows who do not uphold the requirements of the fellowship may have the fellowship revoked and may lose their funding and EUSHIP subsidy for the remainder of the fellowship term.

When applicable, this fellowship replaces other graduate school stipend and scholarship funding a student may have been scheduled to receive for the fellowship year, and the eligibility for that funding cannot be reserved to be used in a subsequent year.

**Please note:** Unless indicated otherwise, all LGS fellowships require on-site in-person participation and completion. There are no remote options available unless explicitly indicated.

**Award Notification**

Applicants will be notified by January-February 2025

**Questions?**

**If you have any questions, please contact:**

For questions about this specific fellowship, Obse Ababiya at [obse.ababiya@emory.edu](mailto:obse.ababiya@emory.edu).

For general questions about LaneyConnect, contact [LGS.profdev@emory.edu](mailto:LGS.profdev@emory.edu).

**A. Democracy and Electoral Integrity - Graduate Student Fellowship-Application Coversheet**

**Date:**

**Student Info:**

Full Name:

Emory Email:

Program:

EMPL/Student ID:

When did you start graduate studies at Emory (month/year):

When did you enter candidacy (month/year): *(if not in candidacy, enter N/A)*

If you have had an official leave of absence, please indicate how many semesters:

Please list the person who will provide your letter(s) of recommendation for this application:

**Dissertation/Thesis Info** *(if you have not yet started a dissertation project, or does not apply to you, please enter N/A)*

Project Title:

Committee Chair(s):

Anticipated completion date (month/year):

**Support Info**

Counting this year, how many years of LGS financial support have you received? If this does not apply to you, please indicate here:

Are you supported by PI funding?

If you answered “no”, proceed to the next question. If you answered “yes,” you need to consult with your advisor and/or DGS to make sure that receiving this top-off fellowship would fall within the guidelines of your program as well as the effort certification requirement of your funding source. Your advisor and/or DGS should sign below, to indicate that you have discussed these issues, and that they approve of this application:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Advisor Name/ DGS Name

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Advisor Signature/DGS Signature

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Have you received any other advanced student fellowships from Emory?

If so, which one?

Please list any other funding you have applied for, or will apply for, to support your work. For each, please list the source, the amount, and the status of the application (e.g., “pending” or “due April 15”).

<b>Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Status</b>

**B. Democracy and Electoral Integrity - Graduate Student Fellowship - Learning Application Coversheet**

***Biographical Information***

**Last name:**

**First name:**

**Current mailing address:**

**Email:**

**Telephone number:**

**Emergency Contact 1:**

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Telephone number:**

**Email:**

**Relation:**

**Emergency Contact 2:**

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Telephone number:**

**Email:**

**Relation:**

***Institutional Information***

**School:**

**Program:**

**Advisor:**

**Advisor email:**

**Current GPA:**

**Expected Graduation Date:**

**Are you pre-registered for courses next semester?    Yes     No**

Please provide advising document with following semester’s course schedule.

**Will you be using this experience to fulfill a practicum requirement?**    Yes       No  

**Application Skills Sheet**

(Please feel free to provide additional information on a second page)

**I. Computing Skills**

<i>Software/languages</i>	<i>Never used</i>	<i>Beginner</i>	<i>Intermediate</i>	<i>Advanced</i>
<b>Microsoft Word</b>				
<b>Excel</b>				
<b>Databases</b> (specify which):				
<b>Statistical Packages</b>				
R				
SPSS				
Stata				
Other:				
<b>GIS experience:</b> (specify)				
<b>CMSs</b>				
Drupal				
WordPress				
Other				
<b>Languages</b>				
HTML				



XML				
PHP				
C/C++				
Python				
Other:				
<b>Other experience:</b>				
Zotero				
EndNote				
LaTeX				
Final Cut Pro				
Adobe Creative Suite (or a component)				
Software testing				

**II. Teaching and training**

If you have taught or co-taught any courses at Emory or elsewhere, please list them here and what role you played in the instruction. Non-academic training experience is also relevant to list

**III. Language Skills**

On a scale from 1 (native speaker) to 5 (first semester skills), please rate your skills for the languages in which you have some amount of proficiency.

<i>Languages</i>	<i>Reading</i>	<i>Writing</i>	<i>Speaking</i>
<b>English</b>			

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