

Yale University President's Public Service Fellowship
Summer 2021

Proposal for Fellow working remotely for organization

- Organization: Gateway Community College
- Full street address of organization: 20 Church Street New Haven, CT 06510
- Website: www.gatewayct.edu
- Name and title of person who will be the Fellow's direct supervisor: Licella Arboleda, Counselor, Wellness Center and Director of Family Economic Security Program (FESP)
- Phone number and e-mail address of proposed direct supervisor:

203-285-2028 larboleda@gatewayct.edu
- Placement dates:

June 1, 2021- August 13, 2021
- Are placement dates flexible? Are you able to accommodate a Fellow working in a different time zone?

Yes, placement date is flexible and yes we can accommodate a fellow working in a different time zone.
- Proposed 37.5 hour per week work schedule: 9 am – 5 pm with half hour lunch
- Organization description:

Gateway Community College offers high-quality instruction and comprehensive services in an environment conducive to learning. We respond to the changing academic, occupational, technological, and cultural needs of a diverse population. To realize this mission, Gateway Community College:

- Offers a broad range of credit and credit-free liberal arts and sciences, technical and career associate degrees and certificate programs, and courses leading to transfer, employment, and lifelong learning
 - Encourages student success and inclusion through stimulating learning opportunities, innovative teaching, support services, and co-curricular activities
 - Supports economic development through business, industry, government, and community partnerships.
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- Strengthens our community through the sponsorship of intellectual, cultural, social, and recreational events and activities
- Engages students and community members as active, responsible leaders.
- **Write a 1-2 sentence summary of the work that the Fellow would be conducting:**

The Fellow will assist the Director of Gateway’s Family Economic Security Program with conducting research, data collection and analysis, and development of virtual workshops for FESP participants.

- Write a more complete description of the specific project you propose and list the duties/outcomes expected of the Fellow.

The Family Economic Security Program (FESP) is a highly successful retention-based student support program that provides intentional, holistic wraparound services to low-income students enrolled at Gateway Community College (GCC). The program’s mission is grounded in four pillars which include academic, career, financial, and personal coaching. In addition to the individualized coaching sessions, students have access to academic-based workshops, learning how to monitor and improve their credit score and developing a household budget, are eligible for emergency assistance grants through the FESP Helping Hands fund which addresses financial barriers that arise that are unexpected and can impact student persistence, obtain scholarships based on academic performance, and increase job placement skills.

The significance of FESP is that it capitalizes on student assets and support systems, as well as, institutional and community support/resources for its participants. FESP also helps its participants develop valuable skillsets that help them to increase their earning potential while providing for their family members.

FESP is a diverse student success program that serves low-income students at Gateway. The program snapshot is as follows:

- 76.7% of students are female and 23.3% are male.
 - 42.7% of students are African-American
 - 32% of students are Hispanic
 - 15.7% of students are Caucasian
 - 8.8% of students are multi-racial
 - 4.4% of students are Asian
 - 4.4% of students are other
- ** % of student ethnicities are greater than 100% due to multiple students identifying with multiple ethnicities.
- 42.7% of students are between the ages of 19-24 years
 - 57.3% of students are between the ages of 25-64 years

FESP administrators learned through intentional outreach that there are a significant number of single mothers participating in the program.

The Fellow will assist the Director of Gateway's Family Economic Security Program (FESP) with program data collection and analysis, develop intentional virtual workshops for incoming students in FESP and assist with establishing and connecting students to community resources in New Haven. The data collection and analysis will allow the FESP director and program stakeholders to evaluate and make meaningful change to the program based on data. The virtual workshops will be designed to increase student financial health and social mobility. The community partnerships will support students as they work towards increasing their belonging in college and New Haven community.

Research: Assist Director with conducting research specific to community colleges and the student population we serve. For example, research topics will include low-income, first-generation students of color, student parents, need for wrap-around services and benefits of cohort models at community colleges. The research will focus on promising and national best practices.

Data collection and analysis: Data collection and analysis will be specific to the program goal of increasing retention rates, associate degree, and certificate complete, enhancing workforce skills and increasing financial stability for FESP participants. The fellow will assist with collaborating with GCCs Institution Research department to obtain data specific to student demographics, grade point average and semester to semester retention. The Fellow will assist with the creation and implementation of surveys specific to services offered by FESP to evaluate effectiveness. The fellow will be a critical part of disaggregating the quantitative and qualitative program to improve program performance.

Virtual workshops: Using data and student feedback, the fellow will create virtual workshops using Microsoft products to provide students with the experience they desire, while simultaneously delivering on program objectives. All virtual workshops will be build using best practices, research, institutional specific data, and student feedback. An end of workshop survey will also be created and distributed.

Community Resources: FESP data shows that FESP participants underutilize community resources in New Haven. The fellow will assist with identifying the available resources in New Haven, the criteria to qualify agency services, and collect data specific to what community resources are being utilized by FESP students.

- List specific skills/experience required for this work:

Must be computer proficient in Microsoft Office Suite and familiar with utilization of database software. Comfortable with working with a diverse student population. Have good interpersonal communication skills and willingness to work as part of a team.

- Equipment/resources you will provide to help Fellow conduct work:

Gateway will provide access to a college email and college phone number. If the fellow is based on campus in summer 2021 then Gateway will provide office space that is appropriate for social distancing as needed.

- Briefly describe the work that Yale PPSF Fellows have done with your organization in the past and present. If you have not worked with Yale Fellows, describe any work that Yale students have done with your organization.

We have multiple partnerships with Yale University in our Allied Health/Nursing and Math/Science areas.

