

# 2026-28 RISING LEADERS FOR RESULTS

## Preview of the Application Questions

THE ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION

### WELCOME

The Rising Leaders for Results Fellowship is the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Results Count® program to develop the potential of emerging leaders, ages 24–31, in public, nonprofit, for-profit, entrepreneurial and philanthropic organizations working to improve outcomes for children, youth, families and communities. The Fellowship explicitly strives to build the skills and capacity of early-career leaders, especially in communities where needs are greatest and resources are limited, to accelerate their impact in the present and over the arc of their careers. To learn more about [the Rising Leaders Fellowship and application process](#), visit the Casey Foundation website.

### INSTRUCTIONS

The Casey Foundation is using the online platform SurveyMonkey Apply to collect applications for the Rising Leaders Fellowship. [Register with SurveyMonkey Apply](#) to use the platform and apply. **This application must be completed and submitted on the SurveyMonkey Apply platform.** To be reviewed, applications must be completed and submitted by 5 p.m. EDT, Monday, July 6, 2026. [This PDF version of the application provides a preview of the questions.](#)

## PART I: APPLICANT PROFILE

Applications will not be considered complete without this information.

#### 1. Contact information

- First name:
- Last name:
- Primary position or title:
- Current employer:
- Work street address:
- Work city:
- Work state:

- Work ZIP:
- Preferred phone:
- Preferred email address:

2. Please indicate the sector in which you work (choose one):

- Academia
- For-profit
- Nonprofit Public
- Public-private partnership
- Self-employed

3. Please indicate the primary discipline or field in which you work:

- Advocacy
- Child welfare/social services
- Community development/organizing
- Early care/child development
- Economic development Education
- Health
- Housing/homeless services
- Juvenile justice/criminal justice
- Mental health/substance use
- Philanthropy
- Research/evaluation
- Youth/young adult development
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

4. Please provide the following information about your immediate supervisor.

- Full name:
- Title:
- Phone:
- Email address:

5. How did you hear about the Rising Leaders Fellowship? Check all that apply.

- Personal/professional recommendation (specify):
- Casey Foundation website
- Email from Casey Foundation or Foundation partner
- Social media (LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter)
- Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

#### OPTIONAL QUESTIONS

The Casey Foundation is committed to equity and inclusion and seeks to achieve greater diversity of leaders within its leadership programs. Your responses help us understand who is applying and how we are reaching different communities.

6. Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin or descent? (Select all that apply)

- No
- Yes, Mexican, Mexican American
- Yes, Puerto Rican
- Yes, Cuban or Cuban American
- Yes, another Hispanic or Latino origin (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Prefer not to answer

7. What race do you consider yourself? (Select all that apply)

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian or Asian American,
- Black or African American
- Middle Eastern or North African
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- White
- Other, please specify here \_\_\_\_\_
- Prefer not to answer

8. Gender:

- Female Male Nonbinary
- Prefer to self-describe (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Prefer not to answer

9. Is there any additional information about your race, ethnicity, identity or lived experience you would like us to know?

## PART II: APPLICANT ENDORSEMENT

You must be able to answer “yes” to each of the following requirements and acknowledgments for your application to be considered:

10. A. I have reviewed all the Rising Leaders for Results Fellowship program requirements and the calendar with my supervisor and have my organization’s support to participate fully in the program on work time. (Finalists and their supervisors will be asked to sign a form agreeing to program expectations.)

10B. I will not be involved in another leadership program or fellowship during the Rising Leaders for Results Fellowship program period (November 2026 through August 2028).

10C. I will not seek public office during the Rising Leaders for Results Fellowship program period (November 2026 through August 2028).

10D. I am not an immediate family member of a Casey Foundation trustee or employee.

10E. I understand that I cannot apply to positions or be hired by the Foundation during the Rising Leaders for Results Fellowship program period (November 2026 through August 2028).

10F. I understand that my application will be reviewed by the Rising Leaders for Results Fellowship selection committee and that, if selected as a finalist, I must participate in the virtual interviews on August 19–20, 2026.

10G. I give permission for my application to be shared and copied for selection purposes.

10H. If selected, I agree to participate in all activities planned for the program, including but not limited to seminars, coaching sessions, site visits, applied leadership work, between-session engagement and a customized leadership plan.

10I. I understand that the Fellowship includes personal leadership development and agree to maintain confidentiality regarding participants' experiences and reflections shared as part of the Rising Leaders Fellowship.

11. Did you answer affirmatively to all the above questions (10A–10I)?

If you answer "Yes" and submit this application, you are accepting the conditions outlined above.

If you answer "No," you are not eligible for the Rising Leaders for Results Fellowship and your application will not be reviewed.

## **PART III: APPLICANT EXPERIENCE AND CAPACITY**

Your answers to the following questions will help the selection committee learn about you and understand how you would benefit from the Fellowship experience. Please adhere to word limits, be clear and specific and provide examples when possible.

Reviewers are most interested in understanding who you are as a person and leader. Please respond authentically. Applications will be assessed on the clarity, depth and thoughtfulness of responses, not on grammar or polish.

12. Tell us about your current (or most recent) work — What is the focus of your work, who benefits and what is the scope of your impact? How do you typically work (e.g., in-person, hybrid, or fully remote), and who do you most often collaborate with? If you are employed by an organization, briefly describe the organization. If you are self-employed, describe your work or business. [Limit: 350 words]

13. Why are you applying for the Rising Leaders for Results Fellowship at this point in your leadership? What do you hope to strengthen or develop through the experience? What would you contribute to the cohort, based on your experience, perspective or way of working? [Limit: 250 words]
14. Describe something you care deeply about. How is it currently showing up in your work or life? [Limit: 250 words]
15. Reflect on an early experience and a more recent experience related to race. How have these experiences shaped how you see yourself and your leadership? [Limit: 250 words]
16. Describe a leadership experience that has shaped you. What did you bring to that experience, and how did it stretch or grow you as a leader? [Limit: 250 words]
17. What do the terms equity and well-being mean to you? How do they shape how you approach your work or the outcomes you are trying to achieve? [Limit: 250 words]
18. What are your long-term career aspirations? [Limit: 250 words]
19. OPTIONAL — Show us who you are.

You are welcome to submit one supplemental piece that helps us understand you better. This might introduce you, reflect your passion, show a day in your life or illustrate how you think about equity, results or well-being. Choose whatever medium best expresses what you want to share — video, writing, art, audio, slides or something else entirely. Be creative.

Guidelines:

- Include a brief explanation (2–3 sentences) of what you are submitting and why.
- Keep videos and audio clips to two minutes or less (you may link to longer versions).
- Limit slide decks to 15 slides.
- Submit only one item.

## PART IV: REFERENCES

Identify two individuals who you believe have the experience to judge your skills, interest and ability to grow as a leader of change on behalf of children, youth, families and/or communities. Note: References will not be contacted until the finalist stage of the selection process.

### 20. Reference 1

- Contact name:
- Position or title:

- Organization:
- Phone number:
- Email address:
- Relationship to you:

## 21. Reference 2

- Contact name:
- Position or title:
- Organization:
- Phone number:
- Email address:
- Relationship to you:

## PART V: FILE UPLOADS

22. Please upload a current version of your current resume. If you do not have a current resume, you may upload a single document that helps us understand your work, leadership or lived experience (e.g., a work sample, project summary or brief portfolio).

If you do not have a formal document, you may upload a brief written summary (1–2 pages) describing your work or leadership.

23. Please upload your employer's organizational chart (if available).

## THERE IS ONE MORE STEP: SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

Once you have finished your application, hit the “mark as complete” button, and then click “submit.” Note: The registered user will receive a confirmation email upon submission. If you do not receive a confirmation email, your application is not properly submitted and will not be considered for the Rising Leaders Fellowship.

Emails sent by this application portal are from [noreply@mail.smapply.net](mailto:noreply@mail.smapply.net) and not a Casey Foundation email.