### **Global Gap Year Fellowship**

### ***A Year of Public Service, a Lifetime of Global Citizenship***

If you could dedicate a year between high school and college – a “gap year” – to provide public service anywhere in the world, where would you go, and what would you do? Global Gap Year Fellowship applicants are not required to have rigid, determined service plans for their gap years. Rather, the application process represents an opportunity for students to think about the potential international opportunities they would like to pursue. The Fellowship annually supports seven incoming first-year students as they explore international affairs and global citizenship.

The Global Gap Year Fellowship is jointly administered by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and the Campus Y, the center for social justice and social innovation at UNC-Chapel Hill. The Fellowship provides $7,500 to support a self-designed gap year abroad. The award must be used toward travel, living expenses, insurance, and other associated costs. Most of our fellows begin their service-based gap year in September and end in June. We require students to do service abroad for a **minimum of 6 months.** The Campus Y helps students throughout this process—assisting in planning their gap years, preparing students for their international experience, supporting them while abroad, and helping them to integrate their experiences into their education at Carolina.

The Fellowship is awarded on a competitive basis to first-year students who are admitted “early action” for Fall 2017, plan to enroll at UNC, and are interested in deferring their enrollment for one year in order to have a gap year experience. We welcome applications from all admitted early action students, and previous international experience is not required. **We especially encourage applications from under-represented students, first-generation college students, and students from lower socio-economic backgrounds.**

All selected finalists are invited to participate in the “Global Gap Year Fellowship Finalist Weekend at Carolina” the weekend of **April 7th-9th, 2017.** All expenses are covered for this weekend event. During this event, finalists will participate in final interviews, and they will engage with former Gap Year Fellows who are currently studying at UNC. The weekend will also feature an extensive orientation on global travel. Through workshops, finalists will learn about the logistics of global travel (e.g. budgeting, safety, etc.) and the potential ethical and cultural challenges associated with global projects. Finalists will also meet faculty, students, and staff, and they will learn more about international research and service opportunities at Carolina. This weekend experience will be beneficial to all finalists who attend, whether or not they are recipients of the GGY Fellowship. Participants will become familiar with the campus, UNC students, faculty and staff, and additional global engagement funding available to all UNC students.

Finalists will be notified about offers, the week after their visit to Carolina. They will have until **April 30th** to make a final decision about acceptance. Finalists who accept the Fellowship will be required to attend a two-week, all expenses paid, intensive program during the month of **July of 2017** (dates TBD). During this program, Fellows will participate in recreational activities, workshops, and one-on-one mentorship with GGYF staff to plan for their Gap Year.

The Carolina community has been challenged by the Chancellor to strive to solve the world’s most pressing problems. The Global Gap Year Fellowship offers incoming first year students a head start on that mission and the opportunity to develop as leaders of public service.

For more information, please visit the Global Gap Year Fellowship website <http://globalgap.unc.edu>*.* Applicants are encouraged to contact Sarah Smith for any questions about the application at [susarah@email.unc.edu](mailto:susarah@email.unc.edu).

Sincerely,

Sarah Smith Richard Harrill

Global Gap Year Fellowship Coordinator Campus Y Director

UNC Chapel Hill Campus Y  UNC Chapel Hill Campus Y

**Global Gap Year Fellowship: Application Timeline**

**Part One: Application**

Read through the application instructions and complete the online application and supplementary information by Monday, March 6, 2017 at 5 p.m. EST. Please note the application does not allow you to save and must be completed all in one sitting.

Finalists will be notified by the end of the business day on March 31, 2017.

**Part Two: GGYF Finalist Weekend at Carolina**

All selected finalists are invited to participate in the “Global Gap Year Fellowship Finalist Weekend at Carolina” the weekend of April 7 - 9, 2017. All expenses are covered for this weekend event. During this event, finalists will participate in final interviews and other activities.

**Part Three: Final Notification**

Fellowship recipients will be notified by the end of the business day on April 14, 2017. If accepted, a notice will also go to parents/guardians.

**Part Four: GGYF Summer Leadership Institute!**

All Fellows are *required* to participate in the GGYF Summer Leadership Institute, which will take place for 2 weeks during the month of July 2017 (dates TBA). The Fellowship will pay for all meals, travel, and accommodations. During this program, Fellows will participate in recreational activities, workshops, and one-on-one mentorship with GGYF staff to plan for their Gap Year.

**Global Gap Year Fellowship: Application Instructions**

**Candidate Profile**

Provide basic biographical and contact information. If you have over two weeks of international travel experience, you will be asked where, why, for how long, and two important experiences from your time abroad.

**Note that if you were born after December 31, 1999 you are not eligible to apply for the Global Gap Year Fellowship.**

**Fun Facts**

You will answer each of the questions below in less than 100 words:

* 30-second elevator speech describing who you are and where you come from.
* Describe one of the most meaningful relationships you have had.
* If you could change one thing about your community, what would you change?

**Self-Assessment**

You will be asked to consider each skill below and discuss two (2) strengths and two (2) weaknesses in the following questions:

* From the skills and qualities listed above, please select two that are your strongest. Why did you select these skills? What makes you especially good at them?
* From the skills and qualities listed above, please select two that are your weakest. Why did you select those skills as weaknesses?

**List of skills:**

* Imagining solutions
* Organization
* Public speaking
* Listening to others
* Leadership
* Overcoming challenges
* Prioritizing tasks and goals
* Motivating others
* Time management
* Clear communication with peers
* Being open to different points of view
* Reflecting on past experiences
* Building relationships with people from different backgrounds
* Accepting feedback
* Providing feedback to others
* Financial management and responsibility

**Short Answer Questions**

*Please respond to each question below and limit your responses to 250 words maximum for each one.*

1. **Local Community Engagement:** Describe an issue you have been passionate about and how you have engaged with it in high school.
2. **Global Service-Learning:** One unique aspect of the Global Gap Year Fellowship is that it is self-designed. We encourage students to explore organizations that they would like to work with abroad on their gap year. Please identify 1-2 regions and topics of interest. Then identify 1-2 organizations that you could see yourself volunteering with. **Elaborate on what kind of service you would do with this organization and why.** You will NOT be tied to your responses.
3. **Cross-Cultural Interaction** (250 words each)**:**
   1. Cross-cultural interaction promotes mutual understanding among different communities and cultures. Cross-cultural interaction can happen locally and internationally. **Tell us about a time when you had a cross-cultural interaction** (in the U.S. or abroad.) What did you learn about yourself and others from the cross-cultural interaction?
   2. What do you hope to learn from your immersion abroad, and in turn, what do you hope people learn from you?
4. **Challenging Situations:** Doing service abroad offers unique challenges. What can go wrong? **Anticipate a challenge and discuss some ways you would endeavor to solve it.**

**Long Essay Question**

*Please craft an essay that responds to the following prompt. Your answer should be no more than 500 words.*

**How does the Global Gap Year Fellowship align with what you hope to accomplish at Carolina?**

**Optional Supplemental Information**

Is there anything else you would like the review committee to know about you? Provide any other information you think is important to your application here (Max. 200 words) *This question is optional*

**Additional Documents**

The following additional documents are required, and your application will be considered incomplete without all application components.    
  
1.**A 1 - page resume** that highlights your extracurricular and service activities. Please submit your resume below in PDF format only. (For instructions on how to save your word document as a PDF file: https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Save-or-convert-to-PDF-d85416c5-7d77-4fd6-a216-6f4bf7c7c110?ui=en-US&rs=en-US&ad=US)

2. **A letter of Recommendation:** Please provide a letter of recommendation from someone who has supervised you in an educational, professional, or community service environment and can provide greater insight into your preparedness for the Global Gap Year Fellowship. It is important to share information about the Fellowship with your recommender, so that they have a better understanding of the demands of the program.   Your recommender must submit the letter directly to the selection committee at [this link](https://unc.az1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_2l5s5DpoSSbyHGZ) (<https://unc.az1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_2l5s5DpoSSbyHGZ>) by Friday, March 10 at 5pm Eastern Standard Time.