Franklin Talent Exchange Partnership (FTEP)

The complexity of issues facing the U.S. government has never been greater. It is imperative that we look at new and innovative ways to bring in the talent and knowledge of the private sector, in a collaborative effort, to face these challenges. To tap into the knowledge of expert American citizens, the Department of State (DOS), and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) created the Franklin Fellows Program; [https://careers.state.gov/work/fellowships/franklin-fellows](https://careers.state.gov/work/fellowships/franklin-fellows).

Franklin Fellows Program Reimagined

Now, completely redesigned, the Franklin Talent Exchange Partnership is a partnership program between the U.S. Department of State and private sector entities that share an interest in advancing specific foreign policy priorities in areas such as economic growth, energy, agriculture, the ocean, the environment, and science and technology.

The partnership offers an opportunity for participants to embark in a collaborative two-way exchange that brings in talented experts from a consortium of private sector partners and sends Department employees on assignments to private sector partner organizations where assignments strategically align with the Department’s top foreign policy priorities.

Who Qualifies?

Participants must be American citizens, able to get a security clearance, with a minimum five years’ experience that qualifies them as:

An **expert** — a person who is specially qualified by education or experience to perform difficult and challenging tasks in a particular field beyond the usual range of achievement of competent persons in that field.

A **consultant** — a person who can provide valuable and pertinent advice generally drawn from a high degree of broad administrative, professional, or technical knowledge or experience.

The FTEP is not a career-entry vehicle. The program does not lead to employment with the U.S. Department of State.

What Will Fellows Do?

Participants often work in areas of new and emerging concern where the U.S. Department of State lacks in-house expertise. On issues on which the Department is already working, participants bring years of experience to bear, helping their colleagues to form a deeper understanding of the issues.

How to Apply

Participants are nominated by their employer to participate in the partnership. Companies and other non-governmental organizations that want to participate in the program must be a part of the partnership consortium of private sector companies. Participants are not compensated by the U.S. Department of State, they are sponsored by their employers.