



# ACLS LEADING EDGE FELLOWSHIP

<b>Project:</b>	Advocating for Ethics and Money-in-Politics Reform Using Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic
<b>Organization:</b>	Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW)
<b>Location:</b>	Washington, D.C. [Fellow will work remotely]
<b>Stipend:</b>	\$60,000 per year, plus health insurance and professional development funding
<b>Start Date:</b>	January or February 2021

## ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW) uses aggressive legal action, in-depth research, and bold communications to reduce the influence of money in politics and help foster a government that is ethical and accountable. To learn more about CREW, visit <https://www.citizensforethics.org/>.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Watergate scandal led to a number of reforms to the American system of governance that shaped the campaign finance and government ethics systems we have today. The COVID-19 pandemic has already reverberated through many parts of our system, and its intersection with the ethics crisis in our executive branch and the country's renewed focus on systemic racism may trigger a similarly, if not more, transformative reform moment in the near future.

To prepare for and shape that reform moment, advocates for effective ethics rules and equitable participation in our democracy must connect with these larger trends. The lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic can help us understand how to build a democracy that is more resilient and more equitable—but we must understand them and do so with the specificity and rigor that will make the changes both effective and lasting. The Leading Edge Fellow at CREW will be a principal contributor to this effort, and will lead our project to effectively tell the stories that teach these lessons. To carry out this project, the fellow will work in partnership with CREW's broad coalitions, which include labor, racial justice, faith, women's rights, environmental, good government, and other important communities. The fellowship tenure is 12 consecutive months, with an expected time commitment of approximately 40 hours per week.

### Responsibilities and tasks:

- Work with the policy department to design and execute creative advocacy projects that speak to and demonstrate public support for policy reforms that lead to a more equitable and ethical democracy. In particular, focus on answering the question: how has the COVID-19 pandemic both demonstrated and changed our need for a more ethical and equitable democracy?
- In answering this and other related questions, collaborate with CREW's partners across other organizations—as well as with departments internal to CREW, including communications and research—to design and produce policy briefs, memos, articles, infographics, outreach emails, and other research-based deliverables; and ensure that they contribute to the larger democracy reform effort.
- With guidance from the Policy Director and other key staff members, develop a portfolio of related research and writing projects driven by the opportunities presented by the larger political

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You may *not* contact the host institution to inquire about this position.

forces in 2021, with an eye towards integrating our country's shared experience of the COVID-19 pandemic into CREW's advocacy work.

**Qualifications:**

- PhD in any field of the humanistic social sciences, so long as the applicant's research contributes to the scholarship and understanding of religion, theology, or ethics. Read more about eligible fields [here](#).
- Interest in policy and advocacy
- Excellent project management skills
- Ability to work collaboratively within CREW, as well as to seek out areas of collaboration with those in other fields

**APPLICATIONS**

- Information on the Leading Edge Fellowship Program: <https://www.acls.org/Competitions-and-Deadlines/Leading-Edge-Fellowships>
- All applications must be submitted through the ACLS Online Fellowship Application System (ofa.acls.org)
- Application deadline: 9pm EST, November 2, 2020

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