



WOMEN'S POLICY INSTITUTE-STATE
Application for the Class of 2018

EXTENDED APPLICATION DATES FOR REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE - SB 320 TEAM!

WPI-State is a policy advocacy and leadership training fellowship for women and trans people* who want to build their skills to influence public policymaking at the state level.

This is a special application to recruit advocates for a team which will work on SB 320 - an audacious effort to ensure that all college students in California will have on-campus access to medication abortion.

Online Application Due: Friday, August 18, 2017, Noon PST

Application Status Notification: No later than September 1st, 2017

** We use the term "trans people" to refer to transgender men and women as well as non-binary, gender non-conforming, gendervariant, genderqueer and genderfluid individuals. Gender justice is a core value of the Women's Foundation of California and the Women's Policy Institute welcomes applications from these communities.*

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Women's Foundation of California's Women's Policy Institute (WPI) is a year-long program designed to train community-based leaders in California in public policy advocacy. The goal of WPI is to increase the number and capacity of visionary leaders, their organizations and their communities so that they can become actively involved in shaping and implementing policies that affect the lives of women, trans people and their families and communities.

The WPI focuses on improving women's economic security for women, trans people and their families and communities in California. This year, WPI-State aims to feature teams working in criminal justice, economic justice, health, reproductive justice, and trauma justice. The application deadline for those issue areas is closed.

SB 320 TEAM

This application is ONLY for individuals interested in applying to serve on our SB 320 (Leyva) team.

The Problem: No student health care center at California's public institutions of higher education currently provides medication abortion services, despite the fact that this is an easy and safe service to provide. Students face many obstacles in accessing abortion services off-campus—including lack of nearby clinics that provide abortion services, limited access to transportation, and other logistical barriers. These barriers can result in students' delay in receiving necessary care and unnecessary financial burden.

SB 320—The College Student Right to Access Act—was introduced by Senator Connie Leyva on February 13, 2017. The bill was heard in the Senate Committee on Health on April 24, 2017 and then was held as a two-year bill. SB 320 will be taken up by the Senate Committee on Education in January 2018 and continue on through the remainder of the legislative process.

This policy will ensure that students have immediate, on-campus access to exercise their constitutional right to medication abortion. This bill would require student health care plans offered by University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) to cover medication abortion for students. It is our intent to also see California Community Colleges with medical centers included in the final bill.

It will benefit students attending UC, CSU, and CC campuses who may become pregnant, and will help foster a supportive environment where students can concentrate on their studies, have truly comprehensive healthcare, and not face the additional financial, logistical, and emotional burden of having to seek reproductive health care off campus.

TRAINING DETAILS

How is the training program structured?

- Five mandatory three- to four-day overnight retreats in Sacramento and trainings led by Women's Foundation of California staff, policy experts and guest trainers.
- Reading and homework will be assigned in advance of the retreats.
- Two to three webinars may be scheduled to supplement in-person retreats and trainings.
- Teams of five will each work in their own issue area.
- Between trainings, teams will be expected to meet and hold weekly or bi-weekly conference calls and continue working on their bill, including traveling to Sacramento when needed.
- Experienced mentors will guide the teams through the process.

What do fellows do and learn who are in the WPI?

By participating in the WPI-State program, our fellows will:

- Develop legislative and administrative policy advocacy skills;

- Learn how to conduct policy research using an intersectional lens and how to develop policy using an anti-oppression and gender justice framework;
- Gain knowledge and information about California's policy landscape, including current legislative and administrative policy processes;
- Overcome perceived barriers and increase their confidence in participating in the policy process as it is today;
- Develop the relationships necessary to do coalition work that advances public policy;
- Produce state policy that reflects the needs of California's women, trans people and their families and communities;
- Increase their participation in state policy formation and implementation;
- Build their communities' capacity to use the policy process to address problems;
- Strengthen their relationships to and collaboration with other social justice organizations and movements in California;
- Create a peer learning environment among state-level advocates;
- Join a network of more than 400 community and nonprofit leaders who have already graduated from WPI-State and WPI-County and are currently working in public policy at the local and state levels.

What do the teams do during the training program?

All fellows participate in the WPI as part of a team. The SB 320 team will, together:

- Support student organizing work, including participating in trainings
- Conduct legislative research to support SB320
- Conduct outreach to potential supporters of SB320
- Meet with legislative staff and committee staff
- Participate (as needed) in identifying co-authors

What is the time commitment?

The training program includes five multi-day overnight in-person trainings, various written assignments, some webinars and ongoing travel and teamwork between the trainings. Retreats are rigorous, intensive and usually consist of three to four long days (often 9am to 8pm). It's important to come to the retreats rested and without the expectation that you will be able to work remotely on non-WPI projects.

This program will require on average 20-40 hours/month from each fellow. Employers must be supportive of their employees' participation in the WPI and allow them to use staff time to fulfill the fellowship commitments.

When will the training take place?

The WPI-State training is scheduled from September 2017–August 2018. All retreats are held in Sacramento. Key dates include:

- Retreat 1: September 25-28, 2017
- Retreat 2: December 4-6, 2017
- Retreat 3: March 6-8, 2018
- Retreat 4: May 8-10, 2018

- Retreat 5: July 30-August 1, 2018

Full participation in all sessions is mandatory. Webinar dates are TBD.

What is the financial commitment?

- The fellowship is offered free of charge.
- Participants will be provided transportation reimbursements (or in some cases, pre-paid travel) for the least expensive mode of transportation possible and offered a free, shared hotel room with another training participant. If participants would like a private hotel room, they will need to pay for it themselves (subject to the hotel's availability).
- Hotel meals (and some restaurant meals) will be provided during the trainings. Participants will need to pay for their own dinners (and get reimbursed) on the nights that there are no group activities planned (approximately 1 evening each retreat).
- Participants are required to have their own computer and online access.
- Costs associated with regular teamwork that takes place outside of the trainings (phone calls, transportation to meetings etc.) will be paid by the participants.
- Each team can access up to \$1500 of additional funding earmarked to support its policy project.
- Please note that all reimbursements must be submitted by the participant within three weeks of incurring the costs. Checks may take up to 30 days to arrive after the Women's Foundation of California receives a complete and accurate reimbursement request.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

WPI Application Eligibility

- Individuals living or working in California.
- Individuals working in a community-based or non-profit setting with the full support of their employer and/or supervisor.
- Individuals who agree to all participation requirements and whose employers agree to all participation requirements.

WPI Application Link

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SB320WPITeam>