

Emerging Leaders for Liberation

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Who is welcome to apply?

AFSC is seeking young adults who are interested in learning more about social change theories and becoming leaders in their communities. Applicants must be 18-25 years old as of April 1, 2022 and have a relationship to an AFSC program, a Quaker college/organization, or a Quaker meeting. Accepted participants must be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 to participate in the 2022 cohort.

We especially encourage BIPOC and LGBTQIA applicants and individuals who can bring diverse backgrounds and life experiences. We value curiosity, authenticity, and empathy, and recognize that leadership shows up in different ways. Because AFSC is based in Philadelphia, we have a special interest in applicants from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and Quaker colleges in the greater Philadelphia metro area.

How many people will be selected?

We hope to have 30 individuals in our first cohort.

Do I need to be a Quaker to participate in the program?

No. Although AFSC is affiliated with the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), this is not a “religious” program. Although you will be exposed to Quaker ideas and practices, this program does not seek your affiliation with Quakerism.

What is expected from participants?

Participants are expected to join six online learning sessions and two in-person gatherings. We ask participants to bring an open mind, be active listeners, and share their own experiences and perspectives. *(Dates subject to possible change.)*

What kind of social change efforts am I expected to be a part of?

With the tools and strategies learned throughout the program, participants will complete either a group project or a solo project of their choosing and take action in their community. Projects can range from op-eds demanding local policy change to working with an AFSC program on an event or organizing a rally. The project will be up to the discretion of participants and their communities’ needs.

What is the cost for the program?

Because of the generous philanthropic contributions of AFSC supporters, this program is free for all who apply and are accepted. We welcome individuals, families, and others who are inspired by our vision to help support the annual budget of our program, estimated at \$200,000 in the current year. For more information, please contact donorliaisons@afsc.org.

Will multiple people from the same school, group, or organization be accepted?

There is a benefit for the program when multiple people from one group, school, or organization apply together so they form a learning cohort. That said, we cannot commit to accepting all who apply.

Where can I find more information?

Visit: afsc.org/ell

Or contact Mariana Martinez, Program Director at: emergingleaders@afsc.org



1501 Cherry Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102
215-241-7000
afsc.org

The American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) promotes a world free of violence, inequality, and oppression. Guided by the Quaker belief in the divine light within each person, we nurture the seeds of change and the respect for human life to fundamentally transform our societies and institutions.