

Get Involved (<https://www.missioncontinues.org/get-involved/>)

Fellowships (<https://www.missioncontinues.org/fellowships/>)

Service Platoons (<https://www.missioncontinues.org/service-platoons/>)

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Mass Deployments (<https://www.missioncontinues.org/deployments/>)

Fundraisers (<https://www.missioncontinues.org/create-a-fundraiser/>)

APPLICATION PROCESS & PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

CAN I BE A FELLOW IF I AM STILL ACTIVE DUTY, IN THE RESERVES, IN ROTC, ETC?

The Fellowship Program is only open to service members who have completed their military service commitment. We recognize the vital skills of our Active Guard and Reserve service members and we welcome you to join us in service as part of your local Service Platoon (<https://www.missioncontinues.org/service-platoons/>) or at one of our many nationwide service projects.

I'M CURRENTLY ON IRR (INACTIVE READY RESERVE). CAN I BE A FELLOW?

Yes, as long as you meet the minimum service requirement.

WHAT IF I WAS DISCHARGED BEFORE SEPTEMBER 11, 2001?

Our Fellowship Program is for veterans who served a total of 24 months active duty after 9/11 and are fully separated; however, we welcome the skills and leadership from veterans of all eras through our Service Platoons (<https://www.missioncontinues.org/service-platoons/>).

I SERVED LESS THAN 24 MONTHS IN THE MILITARY. CAN I STILL BE A FELLOW?

We require a minimum of 24 months total active duty service, however, medical retirements and/or discharges may be considered on an individual basis.

I RECEIVED A GENERAL DISCHARGE “UNDER HONORABLE CONDITIONS,” AM I ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR A FELLOWSHIP?

We would request additional information as to the circumstances surrounding your discharge to offer you an opportunity for further consideration. We encourage you to explore appealing or upgrading your discharge. You can utilize DD Form 293(2) or you can consult your local Department of Veterans Affairs office:

http://www.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book.asp

(http://www.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book.asp)

I AM GETTING OUT OF THE MILITARY SOON. CAN I APPLY NOW AND START SERVING AFTER MY DISCHARGE?

Yes! You can start your application now; however, we won't be able to process all of your application documents until you've provided documentation confirming your full separation.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO BECOME A FELLOW?

Applications for the Fellowship are always open and accepted; however, there are four classes each year so when you submit the online portion of your application determines which class you be considered for. How quickly your application is processed is relative to how quickly you respond and complete the required elements.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO PROCESS MY APPLICATION?

Once all your materials are submitted (interviews, MOU, etc) your package will be reviewed during the quarterly selection meeting. This meeting typically takes place 60 days before orientation and selection notifications are issued within 48 hours.

WHAT IF I AM DISABLED OR HAVE SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS?

The Mission Continues welcomes veterans of all abilities and adheres to the guidelines as stated by the ADA. Please discuss any accommodations you may require with our staff.

“The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) makes it unlawful to discriminate in employment against a qualified individual with a disability. The ADA also outlaws discrimination against individuals with disabilities in State and local government services, public accommodations, transportation and telecommunications. This part of the law is enforced by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and State and local civil rights enforcement agencies that work with the Commission.”

You can learn more about the Americans with Disabilities Act and your rights at www.ada.gov (<http://www.ada.gov>).

HOW MIGHT THE FELLOWSHIP STIPEND IMPACT MY VA COMPENSATION?

VA compensations are benefits, not entitlements, which means they are not affected by competitive wages as long as you have a service-connected rating. If your injury was sustained or aggravated through any form of military service, your benefits will not be affected by doing a Mission Continues Fellowship. Non-service connected pensions can be impacted by a change in income. Additionally, if you receive Individual Unemployment from the VA, that payment may be impacted. To learn more, speak with your point of contact at the VA.

To learn more, please visit these resources or speak with your point of contact at the VA:

http://www.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book.asp
(http://www.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book.asp)

I CURRENTLY RECEIVE SSDI. WILL I LOSE MY BENEFITS?

Your SSDI benefits may be impacted if you choose to receive the cost-of-living stipend. Upon request, we will provide a letter outlining the Fellowship Program and your potential stipend amount. Please contact your individual SSDI representative for more information. You can learn more about earnings while receiving Social Security Disability Insurance here: <http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/IOI53.html#4> (<http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/IOI53.html#4>).

I'M MOVING TO ANOTHER STATE IN A FEW MONTHS; CAN I STILL APPLY?

Yes! You should begin your application now. Once you have moved, we will work with you to complete the application process and identify a prospective host organization in your new community. Fellowships are available nationwide to include Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico!

WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE A DD214?

All prospective Fellows must provide an official DD 214 (Member 2, 3, or 4) that states the character of discharge. You can request an official copy from the National Archives (<http://www.archives.gov/>) or from eBenefits (<https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/homepage>). You can also print a summary of your DD214 that we will hold until your official copy arrives.

WHO CAN I USE AS REFERENCES?

The ideal military reference is a leader who has worked extensively with you, knows your character and can speak to your desire to serve. Your civilian reference should be an employer, member of your community, teacher/professor or other supervisor who can speak to your character and strengths. References must not be family members, spouses or significant others. Also, be sure that these references are notified that they have been listed as references.

I LOST MY USERNAME AND PASSWORD TO ACCESS THE ONLINE APPLICATION, WHAT DO I DO?

Email charliemike@missioncontinues.org (mailto:charliemike@missioncontinues.org) to have your password reset and sent to you.

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ABOUT THE FELLOWSHIP

HOW LONG IS THE FELLOWSHIP?

Fellowships are 26 weeks long, and Fellows serve 20 hours per week.

WHERE IS MY FELLOWSHIP LOCATED?

Your fellowship will be unique to you! Our model relies on veterans who are ready to serve again identifying strong nonprofits in their community where they can serve again.

WHAT KIND OF ORGANIZATION CAN I SERVE WITH? CAN I SERVE WITH A CORPORATION?

You must serve with a non-profit (501c3) organization in your community. We will also consider faith-based institutions, government/public service organizations and foundations on a case-by-case basis. If you have specific questions, speak with your Fellowship Admissions Specialist.

WHAT IS THE COST OF LIVING STIPEND AND WHEN DO I RECEIVE PAYMENT?

Fellows are awarded a cost-of-living stipend to offset expenses while they are serving their fellowship. The stipend is variable by location, and based upon nationally developed stipend scales for service-related fellowships. Your Fellowship Admissions Specialist will discuss the specifics of the stipend with you. Fellows are paid once per month, based on completion of certain benchmarks in their fellowship, amounting to six checks total during the course of a fellowship. Please note that fellowship stipends will be taxed at the end of the year. Please consult your tax professional for specific guidance regarding your level of federal taxation.

IS ORIENTATION MANDATORY? WHERE WILL IT BE HELD?

You won't want to miss it! Orientation is mandatory and the official beginning of your fellowship. This weekend is the opportunity for you to meet the other members of your class, an important group of veterans who will share this journey with you. Orientations convene once each quarter; travel accommodations, lodging, and meals are provided by The Mission Continues.

WHAT IS THE MOU WITH A NONPROFIT?

The MOU or Memorandum of Understanding is a contract that outlines the responsibilities of the Fellow while serving at their non-profit host organization. It includes the quantitative goals to be reached and all necessary contact information. The MOU should be filled out by both the prospective Fellow and the appropriate contact at the nonprofit. Be sure to add as much detail as possible when listing both the roles/responsibilities of the Fellow and the quantitative goals (x amount of projects, x amount of people, x certificates, etc).

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER MY FELLOWSHIP? CAN I CONTINUE WORKING FOR MY HOST ORGANIZATION?

After your fellowship, you will continue to pursue your goals around employment, education and/or an ongoing role of service. We encourage you to apply for jobs in the non-profit sector, and certainly to apply at your host site if there are positions available. Most of all, we expect you to find ways to continue to serve.

You will also have the opportunity to join your local Service Platoon. This will be a way for you to stay connected to The Mission Continues, continue to serve, and network with other veterans.

As a Fellowship Alumnus, you have already dedicated at least 520 hours of community service and helped to build a lasting relationship with The Mission Continues and your Host Organization. If you're up for the continued challenge then we would like you to apply for a Service Platoon Leader position and lead a small group of volunteers in your community!

WHO CAN I TALK TO AT THE MISSION CONTINUES?

Our Veteran Outreach Specialist will contact you within 72 hours of starting your application and is there to assist you. Should you need assistance in the meantime please email your request to charliemike@missioncontinues.org (CharlieMike@MissionContinues.org)

DONATE NOW (/DONATION/CREATE)

Your tax-deductible donation provides opportunities for veterans to refocus their military skill sets so they can continue serving our country as leaders in their communities.

BECOME A FELLOW (/FELLOWSHIPS/)

Accept the challenge to continue service through a 26-week Fellowship, and gain access to the tools and support to help you reacclimatize and keep succeeding at home.

JOIN A PLATOON (/SERVICE-PLATOONS/)

Serve and share peer support regularly with a team of veterans and civilians while tackling serious local issues and building stronger communities.

[Blog \(http://www.missioncontinuesblog.org/\)](http://www.missioncontinuesblog.org/) | [Careers \(/careers\)](/careers) | [Privacy Policy \(/privacy-policy\)](/privacy-policy) |

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SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER!

Phone: (314) 588 8805 Fax: (314) 571 6227 Address: 1141 South 7th Street, St. Louis, MO 63104

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