



2024 Recruitment Frequently Asked Questions

- *When should I apply?*

Only current 10th grade students that attend a New York City public school should apply to the OppNet Fellows Program. **The application deadline is Sunday, February 11th at 11:59pm and can be submitted any time ahead of that deadline starting November 6th.** Please visit our [How to Apply Page](https://www.opportunitynetwork.org/apply) (www.opportunitynetwork.org/apply) for more information!

- *How do I apply?*

Our application is done online. There is a long application form for students to complete, with help from people at home and school (this form will take a few hours in total, but you can save your work as you go). The application form requires you to attach a copy or screenshot of your current transcript and report card. A counselor and a teacher will each need to complete a separate online recommendation form on behalf of the student applying (this form takes 10-15 minutes).

- *How will Opportunity Network know if I'm a good fit for the Fellows Program?*

We will review all materials that you submit to us to look at the full picture of your potential to get the most from our program. We will consider different aspects of your experience (including your involvement in communities, efforts in school), your goals and interests, and different parts of your identity (with attention to identities that have historically and systematically been underrepresented in higher education and across career fields, including ethnic/racial identity, household income, and household levels of education). In our most recent new cohort of Fellows: the average annual household income was \$40,000; 99% of Fellows identify with a racial/ethnic identity that is multi-racial, Black/African American, Asian, Hispanic/Latino, Native American, Native Alaskan, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, Middle Eastern/North African (MENA); 96% of the Fellows are first-generation college students in the United States.

- *My GPA is under an 87, should I bother applying?*

Yes. While the average GPA of our most recent incoming classes of Fellows is about 94, the range of GPAs is from 74 – 100. We want to see how you might be improving in your classes, which is why we ask for you to submit a recent report card in addition to your transcript. Feel free to tell us in your application form if there have been some circumstances preventing you from higher academic achievement in your classes.

- *Can undocumented students apply?*

Yes. Undocumented students are welcome to apply to the Fellows Program. Undocumented Fellows are given all of the same resources and services as other Fellows. Applicants who are undocumented should feel safe revealing their status on the Fellows application. This information will remain confidential and is stored securely and will only be shared with select staff on a need-to-know basis. College admissions and career success staff will use this information to provide additional support throughout the college and summer opportunities admissions processes.

- I am already a part of a similar program, can I still apply?*

Applicants who already have access to the kinds of resources, services, and opportunities the Fellows Program offers (such as intensive college counseling and application assistance, mandatory summer programming, career and apprentice programs) will not be considered for acceptance into the program. Programs like SEO Scholars, Minds Matter, and Breakthrough overlap with the OppNet Fellows Program and students should not apply to OppNet if they are already a part of one of those programs.
- Is the Summer Institute program in July mandatory?*

Yes. You need to be available to attend to join to the OppNet Fellows Program. Talk to your family about this before you apply! [Full participation in Summer Institute is mandatory for joining our program and will be from Monday-Friday 10a-3:00p for 3 weeks from July 8th-July 26th.](#) There will be both virtual and in-person components.
- I am a family member of a prospective OppNet applicant, how involved will I be?*

We welcome your involvement! You will need to provide some support to your student as they apply to the Fellows Program. If accepted, we will hold several events where we invite families to OppNet (including a Welcome & Family Orientation in June 2024) and look forward to welcoming you to our community!
- I am a guidance counselor/teacher, how can I learn more about OppNet?*

We encourage you to visit our ["About Us" page](#) to learn more about our Fellows Program. Reach out to recruiting@opportunitynetwork.org with any questions you have about the program or helping your students apply, and to make sure that you are on our contact list.
- How can I stay updated about OppNet?*

Feel free to search our website, www.opportunitynetwork.org, and follow us on social media. [*Facebook*](#) [*Instagram*](#) [*Twitter*](#)
- Is OppNet virtual or in-person for 2023-2024?*

Recruitment info sessions will be offered both virtually and in-person at partner sites. Interviews for program applicants will be held in person at our office in Downtown Manhattan and there will be mandatory in-person Orientation sessions once the new class is selected. OppNet has transitioned to a hybrid organization and we will welcome the new class of Fellows with a combination of in-person and virtual programming.
- How has COVID-19 impacted student eligibility and application review process?*

We acknowledge that there have been circumstances outside of students' control due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We use a holistic approach to reviewing applications and will be taking this into account specifically when considering academic performance and extracurricular experiences over the past several years. We encourage students to share any subjective information they are comfortable with in their application to account for any impacts COVID-19 may have had on their eligibility requirements.
- Do I need the COVID-19 vaccine to join the OppNet Fellows program?*

Fellows do NOT need to be vaccinated in order to participate in the program. OppNet may request COVID-19 vaccination status and proof of vaccination (if applicable) from incoming Fellows for tracking and documentation purposes.