



## The CLCI Quad-Caucus Polanco Fellows Democracy Program

### GUIDELINES

#### *A NEW 2010-2011 CLCI Quad- Caucus Polanco Fellows Program*

#### **Envisioning a Vibrant, Inclusive and Successful Democracy**

Founded in 2002, the California Latino Caucus Institute (CLCI) is a bipartisan effort and since 2003 has effectively designed, implemented and self-funded the CLCI Polanco Fellows program. **Six classes** of Polanco Fellows - **a total of 33 CLCI Polanco Fellow Alumni** - have created a proven track record of success. The CLCI has now expanded its vision of creating a Democratic California that is truly reflective of and responsive to fellow Californians. The CLCI is working in collaboration with individual members of the Legislative Quad-Caucuses to create the new 2010-2011 Quad-Caucus Polanco Fellows Class. The highly qualified and motivated Polanco Fellows will grow from the year-long experience that will include:

- 1) The Center for Creative Leadership, La Jolla California Foundation's Of Leadership training (one week) which examines individual's strength and areas for growth.
- 2) The State's Executive Agency experience ( four months) learning the implementation of policy from a department's perspective.
- 3) The Legislative experience (six months) researching an idea into legislation and organizing the civic participation to support or oppose an issue to the final passage and signature by the Governor; and
- 4) The Washington DC public policy conference experience working with Members of Congress and their staff who are strongly committed to achieving the full enjoyment of human and civil rights for all.

The CLCI is expanding and transitioning the traditional Polanco Fellows Program into a new collaborative 2010-2011 QUAD-Caucus effort as a statewide experience of democracy in action. CLCI will work closely with individual members of the California Legislative Quad-Caucus including:

- 1) The California Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus,
- 2) The California Legislative Black Caucus,
- 3) The California Latino Legislative Caucus, and
- 4) The California Legislative Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Caucus

This new approach serves as the foundation for a more comprehensive California government that can help steward public resources effectively and efficiently while developing a NEW Legislative leadership base. Quad-Caucus Polanco Fellows will be crossed trained by Quad Caucus legislative members so that they may learn the needs of underserved communities represented by those legislators and thereafter be better qualified to serve as the voice for those communities.

#### **CLCI / QUAD Caucus Core Values**

- 1) Supporting innovative leadership and mentorship programs that enhance the quality of life for all Californians.
- 2) Developing enlightened leadership and positive social transformation by creating Fellows who serve as public policy change agents.
- 3) Building a better future for all Californians by protecting youth, strengthening families and empowering communities.
- 4) Promoting greater civic participation and knowledge about major policy issues among AA/API, Black, Latino and LGBT communities.
- 5) Creating coalitions, developing community strength and empowering individuals and organizations to engage in the political process.

## **CLCI QUAD-CAUCUS POLANCO FELLOWS**

### **SENATOR RICHARD G. POLANCO PUBLIC POLICY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**

Beginning in 2003, Polanco Fellows have been selected annually from across California to participate in leadership training and to learn about public policy and its application through the legislative process. To date, thirty-three Polanco Fellows have completed the year-long Sacramento based program. Beginning with the 2010 -2011 CLCI Quad Caucus Polanco Fellows, the new program will enhance California's multi-cultural leadership legacy by providing cross training to Polanco Fellows on issues relevant to communities represented by four multi-cultural Legislative Caucuses. These include The California Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus, The California Legislative Black Caucus, The California Latino Legislative Caucus, and The California Legislative Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Caucus

This program will become the nation's first of its kind and serve as a ground breaking experience for public policy training.

As future leaders, the CLCI Quad-Caucus Polanco Fellows are expected to serve as change agents in California's underserved and underrepresented communities. The CLCI leadership development program provides training in public policy, leadership, strategic management and legislative processes as well as on equality, race, class and gender issues. We expect our Polanco Fellows to gain sensitivity to and understanding of the needs of all communities served by the Quad Caucuses.

The 2010-2011 CLCI Quad-Caucus Polanco Fellows will be selected to serve as full-time staff in the Legislature or other branches of government in Sacramento. Assigned with public policy staff responsibilities, Polanco Fellows will be given duties that involve a significant amount of opportunities and challenges. These responsibilities will include helping develop legislative proposals, researching and analyzing bills, responding to constituent inquiries, developing talking points, staffing members, writing news releases, speeches and general correspondence. It will also include organizing at the district office level and meeting grass roots leaders who need support with advocacy in a time of limited resources.

**The term of the Fellowship will be 12 months beginning on September 1, 2010 and ending on August 31, 2011. Each Fellow will receive a monthly stipend of approximately \$1,880 and will be considered an employee of the California Latino Legislative Caucus Institute for Public Policy, also known as the CA Latino Caucus Institute (CLCI).**

Although no previous experience is necessary, applicants are not limited to but should have a strong interest in California's civic participation and public policy. A one-day orientation in Los Angeles and additional training on-site in Sacramento combined with the "Foundations of Leadership" program intensive at the world-

renowned Center for Creative Leadership in La Jolla, California, will provide background knowledge on CLCI and the Quad-Caucus' core values; the role of state government; the legislative process; major statewide public policy issues and the nature of leadership. After the initial orientation process, Fellows will interview with various divisions within the State Agency Departments before being placed. Fellows are required to attend regular graduate seminars conducted by the CLCI program advisor based in Sacramento.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT**

The CLCI Quad-Caucus Polanco Fellows will select a six-month community service project for group involvement. Fellows are challenged to work as a team to advance a project from its initial conception to completion. In the process, each Fellow learns to set aside individual beliefs, to appreciate and trust each other, work with various management styles, to delegate, lead, follow, organize and manage people and time effectively.

The 2010-2011 Quad-Caucus Community Service Project will provide an immediate public benefit for the local community of Sacramento County. Fellows work together identifying a community service project by assessing the needs, making recommendation and implementing new ideas as a class. **Some areas of concern for 2010-2011 Quad-Caucus Polanco Fellows' community service project will be:** exercise, fitness, healthy-habits, children's health, community-health, nutrition, diet, mental-health, disease-prevention, health technology, relaxation, health care systems, stress, music, pod cast communication-techniques, weight loss, diabetes, high blood pressure, heart attack, depression, cancer, flu, health programs, BMI cholesterol calorie counter, sleep research, study yoga, emotional health, optimism, racial ethnic disparities, smoking, health policy symptoms, health care crisis, video, community service, stroke, uninsured Americans, anxiety treatments, and conflict-resolution. Health policy issues have become a heightened matter of national concern as well. First Lady, Michelle Obama, was recently named honorary chair of the newly formed Partnership for a Healthier America. Founded by six leading foundations and nonprofits. This organization was formed to combat childhood obesity. The four pillars of the first lady's plan. The four pillars of her nationwide initiative to fight childhood obesity. Her "Let's Move" campaign will address the issue in the following four ways:

- offering parents the tools and information they need to make healthy choices for their kids
- getting healthier food into our nation's schools
- ensuring that all our families have access to healthy, affordable food in their communities
- increasing opportunities for kids to be physically active, both in and out of school

*\* Working with the CLCI Board of Directors and Program Director, the class will develop and implement their own Sacramento Community Service Project.*

## **PROGRAM BENEFITS**

CLCI provides Quad-Caucus Polanco Fellows with:

- Transportation: one round-trip airfare to Sacramento.
- Gross monthly stipend of approximately \$1,880.
- Health/dental benefits.
- Introduction to the Capitol Area Development Association for housing contacts.

Program requirements:

- Fellows must be a minimum of 21 years of age.
- Work a minimum of 36 hours a week at the placement site.
- Attend all orientation programs.
- Attend pre-Fellowship retreat and leadership training.
- Participate in all designated CLCI sponsored activities.
- Participate in a six-month community service project.
- Prepare a final journal article reflecting on Fellowship expectations and experience.
- Comply with CLCI policies regarding work performance and personal conduct.

### **Eligibility Criteria:**

- Candidates must have a demonstrated interest in public policy.
- Applicants must have graduated from a college or university (with a BA/BS degree).
- Excellent analytical and communication skills (oral and written)
- Be a California resident.
- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent legal resident

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT**

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**2010-2011 CLCI QUAD-CAUCUS  
POLANCO FELLOWS PROGRAM TIMELINE**

July 8, 2010 – August 6, 2010	- Request for applications. - Postcards sent as applications are received and logged.
August 6-12, 2010	- Applications sorted, vetted and reviewed by Selection Committee.
August, 17, 2010 August 18, 2010	- QUAD-Caucus and In-person interviews - Final Selection Advisement Letters mailed
September 2010 (TBD) (One-day retreat)	- GROUP MTG LOS ANGELES
September 2010 (TBD)	- 2010-2011 Fellows Arrive in Sacramento ORIENTATION DAY AT CAPITOL
September 20, 2010 To December 2010	- Executive Agency Placements begins.
September, 2010	-Washington DC, Congressional Hispanic Caucus Issues and Policy Conference - Washington DC, Congressional Black Caucus Issues and Policy Conference
September, October and November 2010	- 3-day program: “Foundations of Leadership” -- Center for Creative Leadership, La Jolla, CA
December-June 2010	- Community Service Projects implemented, executed and completed.
December 2010- January 2011	-Legislative Rotation Begins (continues to August 31, 2011)
Feb 2-6, 2011	National Gay and Lesbian Task Force 23 <sup>rd</sup> National Conference on LGBT Equality: Creating Change in Minneapolis, Minnesota.
May, 2011	- TBD Congressional Asian Pacific Islander American Caucus Conference
September, 2011	GRADUATION TBD SACRAMENTO !