



The Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution's **Political Leadership Academy** in partnership with the Bipartisan Leadership Project

Apply for our flagship
hybrid fellowship held
from May 6 - July 1, 2023

Politics of Decision-Making Fellowship: Conflict, Resolution, and Cooperation

Political Leadership Academy Fellows learn from and dialogue with scholarly and practical thought leaders regarding conflict resolution in the American political context. Throughout our eight-week course, we'll cover:

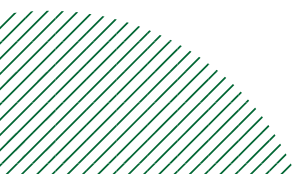
- Strengthening and preserving democracy
- Conflict resolution strategies for collaboration
- Personal and professional communication skills
- Leadership in public policy

Who Should Apply?

While those in political leadership roles are especially encouraged to apply, this course is also open to civic and community group members, business and nonprofit leaders, and others interested in conflict resolution in American politics, especially at the Virginia state and local levels.

What We'll Accomplish

Fellows will be equipped with ideas and skills to respond to contemporary American political conflicts. Sessions will include presentations from scholars and practitioners with an emphasis on group dynamics and networking. Participants will build foundations of understanding from a diverse set of professional and personal backgrounds and will develop contacts with a dynamic cohort of participants who are passionate about unity and problem-solving. Participants will also gain membership in our alumni organization, which holds engaging subsequent events exclusively for Political Leadership Academy alumni.



Fellowship Capacity

We are accepting applications on a rolling basis but will limit the cohort to 24 Fellows.

Tuition

Early Application Tuition: \$2,500 (For applications received by April 7th)

Standard Tuition: \$3,000

Scholarships: Available with needs-based consideration

A limited number of need-based scholarships are available, see application for more details.

Dates & Location

9:00am to 2:30pm **in person at GMU** on the following Saturdays and
6:00pm-7:30pm **virtually** on Wednesdays:

Saturday, May 6th (**in person**)

Saturday, May 13th (**in-person**)

Wednesday, May 17th (**virtual**)

Wednesday, May 24th (**virtual**)

Saturday, June 3rd (**in-person**)

Wednesday, June 7th (**virtual**)

Wednesday, June 14th (**virtual**)

Wednesday, June 21st (**virtual**)

Saturday, July 1st (**in person**)

To Apply

To apply to this Political Leadership Academy Fellowship please visit our website:
<https://pla.carterschool.gmu.edu/>

Accepted applications will be followed by an interview by PLA Leadership before admission.

Contact

Dr. Charles Davidson, PLA Executive Director

Phone: (202) 491-8664

Email: cdavids5@gmu.edu

Website: <https://pla.carterschool.gmu.edu/>

Course Content and Goals

Conflict Analysis and Resolution Topics

Conflict Identification and Analysis

- Understanding Types of Conflict
- Context and Listening
- Systems and Structures
- Power Dynamics and Root Narrative
- Identity Conflict Analysis
- Conflict Mapping

Conflict Resolution Skills

- Intractability and Ripe Moments
- Negotiation
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- Reflective and Reflexive Practice
- Role Play and Understanding

Cooperation

- Cooperation
- Collaboration, Coalitions, and Compromise
- Framing and Messaging
- Collaborative Narrative
- Contemporary Themes

Political Leadership Topics

Political Foundations

- Self Discovery and Leadership
- Understanding Political Conflict
- Structural Challenges
- Political Ideology and Realpolitik
- Personal Communication Skills
- Professional Qualities

Political Conflict Resolution

- Common Ground
- Political Courage
- Ethics, Authenticity, and Trust
- Effectiveness when in the Minority
- Leading in Volatile Environments

Political Cooperation and Effectiveness

- Town Halls and Meetings
- Responsible Campaigning & Community Engagement
- Getting Comfortable with Fundraising
- Public Policy from a Bipartisan perspective
- Media Training and Use of Technology



When confronting contemporary problems as a leader in the community, understanding conflict and how to think about it is foundational for finding resolution today and in the future.

-Jon Stehle, Council Member
City of Fairfax



The PLA offered an invaluable opportunity to collaborate with others, analyze conflict resolution barriers and consider various viewpoints. I know this experience will assist me in both my professional and political endeavors

-Karen Keys Gamarra, Esq.
Fairfax County
School Board Member at Large