



Pursuing a Career with Impact

A Cardinal Careers Guide to Getting Started in Public Service





Through Cardinal Careers, Stanford supports you to pursue a public service career through high-impact events, advising, online resources, and connections to alumni. Cardinal Careers is part of Cardinal Service, a university-wide effort to make service an essential feature of a Stanford education.

At **BEAM (Bridging Education, Ambition, and Meaningful Work)**, we understand that changes in economic conditions, generational trends, and technology necessitate a shift from a transactional model of career services toward one focused on building connections. We are here to help you design your career pathway, venture into new opportunities, and pursue your job search. BEAM supports you in making connections that will serve you on the path to meaningful work.

The **Haas Center for Public Service**, the hub of the university-wide Cardinal Service effort, inspires and supports Stanford University to create a more just and sustainable world—including through making public service careers more visible, valued, and accessible to students. Individual coaching tailored to your interests and goals is at the heart of our work. We also offer timely events, digital tools, signature fellowships, and connections to alumni who are creating change—all to help you make a lasting impact on the social and environmental challenges of our time.



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[Sign up](#) for an advising session to gain industry insights into the public service job search process.

Cardinal Careers Resources to Explore Public Service Opportunities

News about Openings and Opportunities

[Cardinal Careers Newsletter](#)

Subscribe for a weekly, curated update on public service job, fellowship, and internship opportunities.

[Public Interest Tech Edition of the Cardinal Careers Newsletter](#)

Receive weekly updates about hands-on opportunities to use your technical skills for the public good by selecting “Technology and Engineering” as your area of interest.

[Public Service Jobs for Stanford Alumni LinkedIn Group](#)

See the latest public service job openings posted by alumni.

Career Tools

[BEAM Career Education Resources](#)

Discover and assess yourself, find resume templates, practice video interviews, and access employment opportunities.

[Cardinal Careers Public Service Job Search Timeline](#)

Familiarize yourself with the typical application timeline for public service jobs and fellowships

[Year-by-Year Checklists](#)

Stay on track with an action plan for landing a public service job based on your class year.

[First Year](#) | [Sophomore](#) | [Junior](#) | [Senior](#)

Advising and Mentoring

[BEAM Career Coaching](#)

Meet with an expert for coaching tailored to your academic and professional interests and goals.

[Cardinal Careers Advising](#)

Explore public service career options with an advisor through coaching tailored to your interests and goals.

[Stanford Alumni Mentoring Network](#)

Connect with an alumni mentor in your area of interest.

[LinkedIn Stanford Alumni Page](#)

Find alumni in specific organizations to connect with about their career experiences.



Cardinal Careers Postgraduate Fellowships

[Community Impact Fellowship](#)

Work for a participating public service organization through a pre-arranged placement primarily in the San Francisco Bay Area.

[John Gardner Public Service Fellowship](#)

Work in a government or nonprofit organization of your choice, matched with a mentor to guide your professional growth.

[Tom Ford Fellowship in Philanthropy](#)

Work at a U.S.-based grantmaking foundation of your choice and learn about the role of philanthropy in society.

[Stephen H. Schneider One-Year Fellowship](#)

Work at one of the Natural Resources Defense Council’s regional offices to tackle today’s sustainable energy challenges.

Fellowships and Service Year Programs, Job Boards, and Organizations by Service Theme

On the following pages are lists of postgraduate opportunities hosted by external organizations as a resource for exploring public service careers. A listing does not imply endorsement. Please contact a program or organization representative directly for more information about these externally sponsored opportunities. Please keep in mind that opportunities may change in response to global health developments and shifting economic conditions.

Starting a Career in Public Interest Arts and Media

Fellowships and Service Year Programs

1. [Artist Year](#)
2. [Creative Community Fellows, NAS](#)
3. [Diversity + Leadership Fellows, Alliance of Artists Communities](#)
4. [Djerassi Resident Artists Program](#)
5. [Halcyon Arts Lab Fellowship](#)
6. [Jerome Hill Artist Fellowship](#)
7. [The Metropolitan Museum of Art Fellowships](#)
8. [NPR Kroc Fellowship in Journalism](#)
9. [Tulsa Artist Fellowship](#)

Job Boards

1. [Idealist.org](#)
2. [ProFellow](#)
3. [Service Year](#)
4. [ArtsforLA](#) — local job board for the arts in Los Angeles
5. [JournalismJobs](#) — a site with journalism and media jobs

Examples of Arts and Media Organizations

1. 826 Valencia
2. ATTN:
3. Black Sheep Agency
4. Bully Pulpit Interactive
5. Getty Foundation
6. Hewlett Foundation
7. Matter Unlimited
8. Metropolitan Group
9. SF Museum of Modern Art
10. National Endowment for the Arts
11. National Public Radio
12. EPACenter Arts
13. Participant Media
14. Politico
15. The Justice Arts Coalition
16. Rally
17. Scream Agency
18. YouthSpeaks
19. Americans for the Arts
20. Public Broadcasting Service

Alumni Spotlight



Jodie Hodson, '17
Research Associate, Office of the President, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

“Since graduating from Stanford in 2017, I’ve been privileged to work within cultural institutions that support artists and see artists’ work as essential to social justice efforts. Artists produce new knowledge that clarifies the world around us, and their work can both expose and subvert systems that structure an unjust world. I’m grateful to the poets, visual artists, musicians and dancers whose work has pushed the boundaries of my own thinking and shown me new and expansive possibilities for a more just future.”

Starting a Career in Education and Youth Development

Fellowships and Service Year Programs

1. [AmeriCorps Reading Partners](#)
2. [Blueprint Fellowship](#)
3. [Children’s Corps](#)
4. [City Year](#)
5. [Education Pioneers Impact Fellowship](#)
6. [Global Citizenship Fellowship](#)
7. [New York City Teaching Fellows](#)
8. [Project Coach](#)
9. [Teach For America](#)
10. [Urban Teachers](#)

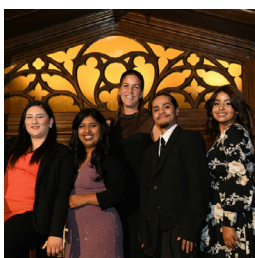
Job Boards

1. [Idealist.org](#)
2. [ProFellow](#)
3. [Service Year](#)
4. [HigherEdJobs](#) — positions in higher education
5. [EdJoin](#) — predominantly school-affiliated positions
6. [GoAbroad](#) — roles to intern, teach, and volunteer abroad
7. [GoOverseas](#) — teaching abroad opportunities

Examples of Education and Youth Development Organizations

1. Advancement Project
2. American Federation of Teachers
3. Aspen Institute
4. AVID
5. Bay Area Community Resources
6. Boys & Girls Club of the Peninsula
7. Center for American Progress
8. Children’s Defense Fund
9. Community in Schools
10. The Posse Foundation
11. Global Fund for Children
12. Innovate Public Schools
13. Larkin Street Youth
14. Leadership for Educational Equity
15. Match Associate Teacher Program
16. Public Allies
17. Santa Clara County Department of Education
18. Save the Children
19. The Education Trust
20. University Prep Academy

Alumni Spotlight



Christa Gannon, JD '97
Founder and CEO, Fresh Lifelines for Youth

“Most rewarding in my work has been helping young people discover or rediscover how incredible and capable they truly are; witnessing the generosity and resiliency of the human spirit—for example, our young people overcome so much adversity and as soon as they get on a path to change they immediately look to see who they can help support to change; playing some part in helping dismantle the obstacles that our kids should never have to face; and inspiring, motivating, and encouraging emerging leaders to develop their strengths and find their own unique path to be of service.”

Starting a Career in Environmental Sustainability

Fellowships and Service Year Programs

1. [Alaska Sea Grant State Fellowship](#)
2. [Echoing Green Social Entrepreneurship Fellowship](#)
3. [Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Science, Technology, and Policy Fellowship](#)
4. [Environment America Fellowship](#)
5. [Green Corps Environmental Organizing Fellowship](#)
6. [Latin American Fisheries Fellowship](#)
7. [Lorry I. Lokey/Stanford University Fellowship](#)
8. [Meridian Institute Fellowship](#)
9. [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fellowships](#)
10. [Schneider Fellowship in sustainable energy](#)

Job Boards

1. [Idealist.org](#)
2. [ProFellow](#)
3. [Service Year](#)
4. [Green Jobs](#) — environmental sustainability job board
5. [Energy Folks](#) — employment opportunities in energy

Examples of Environmental Sustainability Organizations

1. Animal Sheltering
2. Beyond Efficiency
3. California Department of Parks and Recreation
4. California Department of Water Resources
5. Center for Biological Diversity
6. Ceres
7. Clean Water Action
8. Earthjustice
9. Energy Ally
10. Environmental Defense Fund
11. Monterey Bay Aquarium
12. National Park Service
13. Oak Ridge National Laboratory
14. Rocky Mountain Institute
15. TerraCorps
16. The Nature Conservancy
17. The Wildlife Society
18. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
19. U.S. Department of Energy
20. World Wildlife Fund

Alumni Spotlight



Thomas Butler, '95
Counsel, Environmental Protection Agency

“I have always known that my work needs to be focused on the environment for me to maintain interest and a high level of commitment. Even within the environmental field, however, my most rewarding jobs and careers have had a public mission or purpose. I have found that I thrive when working on environmental issues for organizations dedicated to benefiting the public because such work adds a unique depth, challenge, and satisfaction to each day and project.”

Starting a Career in Health

Fellowships and Service Year Programs

1. [amfAR HIV/AIDS Public Policy Internship and Fellowship](#)
2. [Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health Fellowships](#)
3. [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Public Health Fellowship](#)
4. [Eliada RISE Internship with children and adolescents](#)
5. [Global Health Corps](#)
6. [Health Corps at Washington AIDS Partnership](#)
7. [Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation Post-Bachelor Fellowship](#)
8. [National Health Corps](#)
9. [Post-baccalaureate Intramural Research Training Award in biomedical research](#)
10. [Project Horseshoe Farm Community Health Leaders Fellowship](#)

Job Boards

1. [Idealist.org](#)
2. [ProFellow](#)
3. [Service Year](#)
4. [PublicHealthJobs](#) — job board with specialization filters

Examples of Health Organizations

1. California Department of Public Health
2. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
4. Global Blood Therapy
5. Global Health Strategies
6. Kaiser Family Foundation
7. National Institutes of Health
8. PATH
9. Public Health Institute
10. Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
11. San Francisco Community Health Center
12. Santa Clara County Department of Public Health
13. SIRUM
14. Sutter Health
15. TriCity Health
16. UCLA Health Careers
17. Unite For Sight
18. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
19. Veterans Affairs
20. World Health Organization

Alumni Spotlight



Fidelia Butt, '88
Head and neck surgeon

“As a busy head and neck surgeon, what has been most rewarding for me career-wise has been the privilege to use my skills globally through medical missions. Twice a year, I am grateful to be able to travel to developing countries to bring love, hope, and healing to those in need. Locally, I run a nonprofit and on weekends, I run a free medical clinic for the homeless in San Jose. My Stanford undergraduate mentees are always invited to join me at the clinic. I would tell students looking to fulfill their lives these wise words from my parents: act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly.”

Starting a Career in Human Rights

Fellowships and Service Year Programs

1. [Equal Justice Initiative Fellowships](#)
2. [The Greenlining Institute Policy Fellowship](#)
3. [Humanity in Action Fellowship](#)
4. [Immigrant Justice Corps Community Fellowship](#)
5. [Insight Fellowship, Insight Collaborative](#)
6. [JusticeCorps](#)
7. [Mariam K. Chamberlain Fellowship in public policy, Institute for Women's Policy Research](#)
8. [UNICEF Global Citizenship Fellowship](#)
9. [U.S. Public Interest Research Group Fellowship](#)

Job Boards

1. [Idealist.org](#)
2. [ProFellow](#)
3. [Service Year](#)
4. [Center for Human Rights and Global Justice Job Board](#)
— internship, fellowship, and career opportunities in the human rights field

Examples of Human Rights Organizations

1. Accountability Counsel
2. American Civil Liberties Union
3. Amnesty International
4. Court Appointed Special Advocates
5. International Federation for Human Rights
6. Freedom House
7. Human Rights Campaign
8. Human Rights First
9. Human Rights Foundation
10. Human Rights Watch
11. International Refugee Assistance Project
12. International Rescue Committee
13. International Center for Transitional Justice
14. Mercy Corps
15. Open Society
16. Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services
17. Save the Children
18. San Francisco Human Rights Commission
19. Services, Immigrant Rights and Empowerment Network
20. United Nations

Alumni Spotlight



Jaime Huling Delaye, JD '09
Deputy City Attorney, City and County of San Francisco

“A highlight of my career was being a part of the team that won marriage equality at the United States Supreme Court. One of my greatest accomplishments was invalidating the lethal injection protocols in California and thereby preventing any executions from going forward. I would tell students considering public service careers to work for and with people whose work and ethics you admire. Not only will you do good work, you will grow as a professional.”

Starting a Career in Identity

Fellowships and Service Year Programs

1. [Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies Fellowship](#)
2. [Avodah Justice Fellowship](#)
3. [City and County of San Francisco Department on the Status of Women Internship](#)
4. [Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Fellowship](#)
5. [The Greenlining Institute Policy Fellowship](#)
6. [Jewish Organizing Fellowship](#)
7. [Luce Scholars](#)
8. [Mariam K. Chamberlain Fellowship in public policy, Institute for Women's Policy Research](#)
9. [Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowships for New Americans](#)

Job Boards

1. [Idealist.org](#)
2. [ProFellow](#)
3. [Service Year](#)
4. [CenterLink LGBT Jobs Board](#) — jobs related to the needs and interests of LGBT+ communities

Examples of Identity-Based Organizations

1. American Association of People with Disabilities
2. Anti-Defamation League
3. Center for Community Change
4. Family Violence Law Center
5. GLAAD
6. The Greenlining Institute
7. Human Rights Campaign
8. Los Angeles LGBT Center
9. Mental Health America
10. Muslim Advocates
11. National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
12. Native American Rights Fund
13. People's Action
14. Race Forward
15. SF LGBT Center
16. The Black Youth Project
17. The Trevor Project
18. Transgender Law Center
19. UnidosUS
20. United We Dream

Alumni Spotlight



Brett Lee Shelton, JD '96
Senior Staff Attorney, Native American Rights Fund

“I’ve had a rewarding career helping Native American and other worldwide indigenous people understand and protect their rights and develop legal systems more in line with their own cultures.”

Starting a Career in Socioeconomic Prosperity

Fellowships and Service Year Programs

1. [América Solidaria Fellowship](#)
2. [AmeriCorps VISTA Program](#)
3. [Ashoka Fellowship](#)
4. [Carman International Fellowship](#)
5. [Donald M. Payne International Development Fellowship](#)
6. [Donald M. Payne International Development Fellowship Program](#)
7. [Emerson National Hunger Fellows](#) and [Leland International Hunger Fellows](#)
8. [Multicultural Fellowship, San Francisco Foundation](#)
9. [Omprakash Ethical Global Engagement Grant](#)
10. [Rainer Arnhold Fellowship](#)
11. [Residency in Social Enterprise, New Sector Alliance](#)

Job Boards

1. [Idealist.org](#)
2. [ProFellow](#)
3. [Service Year](#)
4. [GlobalJobs](#) — 3,000+ NGO, think tank, government, and

Examples of Socioeconomic Prosperity Organizations

1. Americans for Financial Reform
2. Aspen Institute
3. Center for Law and Social Policy
4. Dream Corps
5. Federal Reserve Bank of New York
6. Innovations for Poverty Action
7. Interfaith Worker Justice
8. Jobs for the Future
9. Jobs With Justice
10. LIFT, equipping families to break the cycle of poverty
11. National Community Reinvestment Coalition
12. National Day Labor Organizing Network
13. National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty
14. National Skills Coalition
15. MDRC
16. Opportunity Agenda
17. PolicyLink
18. Social Accountability International
19. The Urban Institute
20. Working America

Alumni Spotlight



Emily Gerth Gibbs, '07
Budget Director, San Francisco Human Services Agency

“More than a decade out of Stanford, I’ve worked in philanthropy, for community-based organizations, and now local government—but always in public service. Today, I oversee the planning and management for a \$1 billion-a-year budget for the San Francisco Human Services Agency along with a team of analysts and at the direction of our City and agency’s leadership. Our agency touches the lives of more than one in four San Franciscans every year, by enrolling them in public benefits, assisting them when they are in crisis, and supporting them with a whole host of services.... I am privileged every day to have the opportunity to use my skills to support our staff and community partners as they, in turn, support families and individuals in need in our community.”

Starting a Career in Public Interest Technology and Engineering

Fellowships and Service Year Programs

1. [Code for America Community Fellowship](#)
2. [Cybersecurity Talent Initiative](#)
3. [Engineering for Change Research Fellowship](#)
4. [Foreign Affairs Information Technology Fellowship](#)
5. [India-U.S. Public Interest Technology Fellowship](#)
6. [James C. Gaither Junior Fellowship in technology and international affairs](#)
7. [National Institutes of Health Department of Bioethics Fellowship](#)
8. [New America Fellowship](#)

Job Boards

1. [Idealist.org](#)
2. [ProFellow](#)
3. [Service Year](#)
4. [Fast Forward](#) — a tech nonprofit job board
5. [Code for America Public Interest Tech Jobs](#)
6. [Goodgigs](#) — freelance and full-time roles in design, tech, and marketing with social impact companies

Examples of Public Interest Technology and Engineering Organizations

1. 18F
2. Army Cyber Command
3. California Energy Commission
4. Center for Democracy & Technology
5. Change.org
6. Chan Zuckerberg Initiative
7. Code for America
8. Code.org
9. Crisis Text Line
10. Data Kind
11. Ecovative Design
12. Engineers Without Borders
13. Federal Communications Commission
14. IDEO.org
15. Kiva
16. Mathematica
17. NPower
18. PeaceGeeks
19. Spoiler Alert
20. TechSoup

Alumni Spotlight



Michelle Thong, '01
Senior Product Manager, Nava

“Working in public interest technology gives me the incredible opportunity to positively transform how millions of people experience government. Every day I get to learn from and work alongside the most talented and mission-driven people who care about making government work better for everyone. No matter what issues you believe are most important in advancing equity, opportunity, and resiliency in our society, government plays a critical role.”



For support, resources, and connections to get started in a public service career or to make civic leadership part of your professional path, please visit us at beam.stanford.edu and haas.stanford.edu.

