

Professional Development Program Learning Goals & Objectives

Through a year-long professional development curriculum, STPF works to complement fellows' placement experience by enhancing their capacity in four foundational learning areas: Policy and the Federal Government; Communication; Leadership; and, Networking and Career Strategies. Fellows take what they learn in professional development trainings and implement those skills in their fellowship and in future professional interactions.

Professional Development Learning Goals

- 1) Integrate science and technology expertise with communication and leadership skills to impact policy in the federal government.
- 2) Build and maintain a network of diverse stakeholders who are committed to utilizing science to inform policy.

Professional Development Learning Objectives

Policy and the Federal Government

Fellows will be able to...

- Examine the complexities between and within the legislative, executive, and/or judicial branches of government on policy formation.
- Analyze the relationship between science and policy in the federal government and the role of diverse stakeholders.
- Evaluate the impact of contemporary societal issues on science and policy.
- Contribute to pathways that encourage the value of scientific thinking in federal agencies.

Communication

Fellows will be able to...

- Demonstrate knowledge of communication processes to facilitate collaboration with stakeholders.
- Defend the importance of effective science communication on outreach and the potential impacts on policy formation.
- Formulate effective oral and written strategies to communicate science to diverse audiences including the public, media, and policymakers.

Leadership

Fellows will be able to...

- Demonstrate an understanding of different models of leadership and the potential impacts on individuals and organizations.
- Develop key leadership skills to promote desired outcomes.
- Integrate social and emotional intelligence with applied leadership models.
- Capitalize on opportunities to serve as science policy leaders in various sectors including academia, government, non-profit, and industry/private sector.

Networking and Career Strategies

Fellows will be able to...

- Develop skills to form networks and achieve career goals.
- Apply appropriate networking techniques to form lasting connections with individuals and organizations within the science policy matrix.