



# Department of Defense Legislative Fellowship Program

- The purpose of the Department of Defense (DoD) legislative fellowship program is to provide select service members and civilian employees with valuable legislative experience and the DoD with an understanding of how congressional actions affect the DoD's budget, roles and missions, force structure, military projects, and quality of life.
- Assignment of legislative fellows to congressional offices is the responsibility of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs (ASD(LA)).
- The ASD(LA) executes the legislative fellowship program and coordinates with the Military Departments and other DoD Components to determine congressional office placement.
- Historically, there are more congressional office applications than available fellows; Military Department and specialty preference is considered but not guaranteed.
- Eligible congressional offices receive an invitation from the ASD(LA) to apply for the program in August with a requested response in September; congressional offices receive notification of selection November through December.
- Beginning each January, fellows serve in select congressional offices for a period of no longer than one calendar year.

The DoD Instruction (DoDI) for the legislative fellowship is DoDI 1322.06:

<https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/132206p.pdf>

Point of Contact:

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DoD legislative fellows may serve in the offices of House and Senate leadership and Members assigned to the following committees:

- House and Senate Armed Services Committees
- House and Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittees
- House and Senate Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittees
- House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committees
- House Foreign Affairs Committee
- House Homeland Security Committee
- House Committee on Oversight and Reform
- House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
- Senate Foreign Relations Committee
- Senate Select Committee on Intelligence
- Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee

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