

The Palestine Fellowship of the Educational and Cultural Exchange Mission

American Federation of Ramallah Palestine

The second-annual Palestine Fellowship is a grant initiative of the AFRP Educational and Cultural Exchange Mission (AFCEM). The Fellowship invites educators, researchers, artists, media, medical, public health and legal professionals, among many other specializations from the AFRP community, to compete for an up-to \$5,000 grant opportunity to gain experience and give back of their knowledge and skills to communities and Palestinian partner organizations.

The impact of the ongoing genocide against the Palestinian people in Gaza, the West Bank and East Jerusalem has led to global demonstrations against the relentless aggression. As of this writing, the genocide has left a recognized 65,000 Palestinians dead, with many other authoritative estimates of several hundred thousand murdered and disappeared in the ongoing genocide, two thirds of whom are children and women.

Tens of thousands more Palestinians have been orphaned and maimed, and untold numbers of people are missing in the annihilation of whole communities, schools, hospitals, and infrastructure. Most of Gaza's 2.3 million residents have lost their homes and are living through famine and starvation imposed upon them. Meanwhile, activists around the world are protesting the genocide – while confronting unprecedented personal, legal and professional repercussions—and demanding a permanent end to war and occupation and freedom for Palestinians.

This Fellowship is an opportunity to potentially build upon unprecedented public awareness in the United States and globally about the ongoing genocide and demands for Palestinian social justice. At the same time, it is meant to enable mutually beneficial knowledge and expertise exchanges that are self-sustaining after the Fellowship ends.

Successful applicants are expected to develop their own program for their Fellowship, with a time duration that should not exceed one year. Applications may be submitted by individuals or teams comprised of up to 3 members per year, including potential partners in Palestine.

For now, the Palestine Fellowship will be carried out from the United States with partner organizations in Palestine, when possible. Fellowship-funded travel to Palestine is not envisioned at this time.

The grant opportunity is largely planned and directed by the successful applicant(s) with a budget submission and work plan with clearly defined objectives. The following must be attached to the application, in either pdf or as Google Drive files with link provided, or applicant-suggested platforms. The format of the submission is left to the applicant but should clearly set forth the following:

- Project objectives, supported with evidence, research, or citations.
- Work plans, which clearly set forth goals toward project objectives.
- Partners in Palestine and/or the United States with letters acknowledging agreement of the parties to partner in this effort.
- Ultimate products or outcomes from the Fellowship.
- Plans for sustaining the gains made during the Fellowship.
- Budget capped at \$5,000 per Fellow or team. Applicants are strongly encouraged to strengthen their proposals with additional funding from third-party sources and partners.
- A personal narrative of 850 to 1,000 words. This is a chance to tell us about yourself. Discuss your qualifications and dedication to Palestinian social justice. How will you individually, or as a team or with a partner organization, strive to successfully achieve your stated proposal objectives? Discuss the likelihood of obtaining continued support to ensure its viability and growth beyond the duration of the Fellowship. For example, how might the project improve awareness, offer a needed service, influence policy, or develop a community of individuals empowered with knowledge to help serve the Palestinian community?
- A curriculum vitae. When possible, applicants are strongly encouraged to include digital files of written work, art, media, video, or other professional work product in support of their application. If sending these files is not possible using Google Drive, applicants may provide a platform and url or access. Written application materials should be attached in either pdf or as Google Drive files with link provided.
- Finalists will be asked to provide names and contact information for three professional references. Letters of recommendation are not required. If you are a finalist, we will contact your named recommenders.
- Successful Fellows must agree to submitting quarterly progress reports and a final report on achievements toward their stated objectives. When possible, Fellows will also be expected to present on their experience at AFRP events, including but not limited to mid-year meetings and annual conventions, and to contribute to efforts to build the Palestine Fellowship network activities and selection process in future years. Fellows will be responsible for their own travel and attendance costs to attend AFRP events. Remote presentations may be possible.

- Previous awardees are welcome to apply. Their application should show how additional funding will support their project objectives for greater impact and sustainability, in ways that go beyond their first year of grant support.

Illustrative potential projects, used as examples and by no means exhaustive:

- Media professionals help raise awareness in the U.S. media, journalism and free expression ecosystems about the denial of free speech concerning Palestine. The more than 240 journalists and counting, known to have been slain in the ongoing genocide, or media coverage disparities concerning Palestine and its people at home and abroad, can serve awareness-raising efforts for ongoing advocacy and partnerships.
- To respond to catastrophic conditions during the ongoing genocide, medical professionals with much needed expertise, propose an innovative approach to serve Palestinian health needs. Potential concepts include a telehealth service for Palestinians whose movement is restricted, but who have some internet access. The Fellow(s) could propose supporting an existing telehealth service, or kickstart a new service with additional third-party funding or other donor support.
- Artists, musicians, documentarians, authors, journalists, educators or researchers propose innovative ideas for exhibits, concerts, films, capacity building, written work or research projects, along with Palestinian partner organizations.
- Legal professionals seek to provide support to Palestinians through partner organizations and lawyers, while raising awareness in the United States of land theft, or the thousands of Palestinians, including scores of children, who are being held indefinitely without charges under “administrative detention,” and by other unlawful means.

Application Criteria and Deadline

Applications are welcomed from members of the AFRP community, ages 21 and above. The deadline for 2025-2026 Fellowships is Dec. 1, 2025.

Questions and applications should be directed to AFRP Program Director Dillon Odeh, at Dodeh@afrp.org . Please indicate Palestine Fellowship in the subject line. The Fellowship reserves the right to request additional information from applicants. AFRP/AFECM reserves the right to award or not award, or withdraw an award granted, in its sole discretion.