



Transformar Fellowship Program Call for Applications - 2017-18

What is the *Transformar Fellowship Program*?

Transformar is a fellowship that focuses on social entrepreneurship. This program helps define an idea or an area of interest for the participating student. The Fellowship will provide analytical tools to guide students in their academic experience, and/or professional aspirations. It will also motivate students to pursue and understand the complexity of ideas and their intersection with the social, cultural, economic and political forces that affect and/or facilitate social entrepreneurship. To accomplish this, the *Transformar* fellows will work on expanding their understanding of either an area of academic and professional interest or a particular idea they might want to explore. The Transformar fellows will do this by participating in mandatory group sessions in which assigned readings and assignments will be discussed, and ideas will be explored. When appropriate, Transformar fellows will also engage with community organizations and businesses that will provide them with professional mentorship.

The participation in this fellowship will include two semesters of instruction, and an opportunity to present final research project in an annual Student Forum in Mexico. The forum will be a part of a trip that Transformar students will take to Mexico,¹ which will include participating and presenting their research project to Mexican students from various universities in Mexico. Your presentation in Mexico can be either in Spanish or in English. Translation for students who might not speak Spanish will be provided. This trip will take place at the end of the Spring 2017 Semester and before Summer school starts. This trip is part of the program and students should factor it into the students academic development plan.

For more information, please contact Jorge Garcia, Program Director, at El Centro de la Raza / 505-277-5020 or by email at mexicatl@unm.edu.

Priority deadline for completed applications is:

July 14, 2017

¹ The trip will be up to two weeks long and the student needs to allot time to participate. Students will be responsible for getting their passports and applying to the trip through the Summer Leadership Institute (for more information see, <http://studyabroad.unm.edu/student-programs/transformar-summer-leadership-institute-mexico>)



Overarching Goal:

The overarching goal of *Transformar* is to provide selected fellows with practical experience, skills, and analytical tools that would guide their research projects, personal ideas, and/or professional growth.

Learning Outcomes

1. To provide special skills in research methods, critical thinking, and strategic planning
2. To bridge theory and praxis under the understanding of several theoretical frameworks
3. To expand understanding and importance of intercultural education and the notion of “ideas beyond borders”²

Transformar Benefits:

- Learn from experts in the fields of management, planning, and theory
- Engage with other committed fellows
- Gain meaningful professional and intellectual experiences
- Explore the implementation of theory into praxis for social and economic justice
- Develop critical thinking skills
- Explore ideas from the standpoint of complex systems, systems theory, chaos theory, planning and management

Scholarship

- Students who complete the program successfully will receive a \$500 scholarship award. They will also receive travel support to participate in the Transformar Summer Leadership Institute—in Mexico.

With guidance and support the participants are expected to:

- Attend by-weekly sessions
- Define a clear idea or area of interest
- Be independent and take initiative to complete personal project
- Participate and present research in Mexico

² “Ideas beyond borders,” within this program, has to do with the act of sharing and expanding our ideas with students from other countries who are also engaged in social sustainable development.



Eligibility

Students must meet the following criteria in order to be eligible for acceptance into the this program:

- You must be enrolled and able to participate in the program for Fall and Spring 2017-18
- Have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better
- Able to attend 2 hour by-weekly sessions
- Be enrolled as a degree seeking senior or graduate student

Transformar Application Checklist

We encourage you to put time and care in completing this application. Make sure that all information provides us with the best representation of your interest and goals.

All application materials MUST be complete in order to have your application reviewed.

These materials include:

- Completed and Signed Application Form**
- Resume**
- Typed Personal Statement**
 - 1-2 pages in length, double spaced, 12 font, Times New Roman

Please address the following in your personal statement letter:

- Briefly discuss your personal background: Include socio-economic background, community, and educational history
- Discuss your research interests, educational goals and career objectives
- What is the area of interest or idea you would like to expand on in your research under this program? Why do you care about this idea or area of interest?
- What do you expect to gain and learn from your participation in this program?

- One Professional Letter of Recommendation** (see page 6)

Submit your completed application packet to:

El Centro de la Raza
Attn: Jorge Garcia, Transformar Program Director
1153 Mesa Vista Hall, MSC06 3830
1 University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131



Application Form

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Last First MI

Mailing Address: _____
Street City, State Zip

Telephone # () _____ E-Mail Address: _____

UNM ID # _____ Major: _____

Expected Graduation Date: _____ Minor: _____
(Month/Year)

Class Level: Senior Master Doctoral GPA: __

Describe Your Race or Ethnic Identity: (Select all categories that apply)

Asian African American Hispanic/Latino (a) Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
 White American Indian/Alaska Native Other: _____



List the extracurricular activities, or courses you will be involved in the Fall 2017 and Spring 2018

Briefly indicate your specific experience with the following:
 (The answer to these will not affect your eligibility)

Research Methods related to your discipline:

- Have you had research methods in your program? Yes No.
- Library Research skills: Yes No.
- Community involvement: Yes No

If you answer was ye to community involvement, please explain: _____

Applicants Signature

Date



Letter of Recommendation Guidelines Form

Letters of recommendation must be written by a professional reference such as: faculty, staff or formal mentor that can answer the questions below. (Do not submit letters from high school teachers.) Please give this form to the individual writing your letter.

Thank you for taking the time to nominate this student to be a part of the Transformar Fellowship Program. In an attached letter, please comment on the applicants':

1. Ability to work in a group environment
2. Ability to be self directed and to take personal initiative
3. Strengths and weaknesses

*All letters must be signed and sealed in order to be accepted, or email directly to mexicatl@unm.edu with the subject "Transformar Rec Letter 2017."

Please submit your letter of recommendation no later than **July 14, 2017 by 5pm.**

Letters of recommendation can be given to student applicants or submitted to:

El Centro de la Raza
Transformar
Attn: Jorge Garcia
1153 Mesa Vista Hall, MSC06 3830
1 University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131

For any questions please contact:
Jorge Garcia, Transformar Program Director
El Centro de la Raza
Office: (505) 277-5020
Email: mexicatl@unm.edu