



## American Pakistan Foundation Pakistan Fellowship Summer 2024 Placement with the National Rural Support Programme (NRSP)

Position Description, Responsibilities, Qualifications

This is a full-time, **in-person** position in Pakistan (40 hours / w).

The selected candidates will receive a stipend of \$1,000 at completion of the fellowship

**Start Date & Duration:** The fellowship will last 6 weeks and tentatively begin the first week of June.

### Selection Process:

- All applicants must submit a resume, cover letter, and provide a writing sample.
- APF and NRSP will jointly pre-screen candidates and interview those who move on to the next round. Final decisions will be made by APF and NRSP.

**Application Deadline:** March 22

### NRSP Overview

Established in 1991 as a not for profit organization, NRSP is the largest Rural Support Programme in Pakistan in terms of outreach, staff and development activities.

NRSP's mandate is to alleviate poverty by harnessing people's potential and undertake development activities in Pakistan. It has a presence in 72 Districts in all the four Provinces including Azad Jammu and Kashmir through Regional Offices and Field Offices. NRSP is currently working with more than 3.8 million poor households organized into a network of 249,019 Community Organizations. With sustained incremental growth, it is emerging as Pakistan's leading engine for poverty reduction and rural development.

### Position Description:

There are 5 APF fellowship positions open at NRSP.

The NRSP has been hosting APF Fellows since 2017. APF will jointly provide US-based mentors for additional support.

To prepare for this fellowship, the American Pakistan Foundation Fellows applicants are invited to review ongoing projects / special initiatives at NRSP.

See these links for perspectives on ongoing projects:

<https://nrsp.org.pk/>

<https://nrsp.org.pk/publications-and-resources/annual-reports/>

<https://nrsp.org.pk/publications-and-resources/>

## **The Journey**

- Beginning in early June, the fellowship is a 6-week program.
- Weeks 1 & 2
  - Orientation Sessions with different organizations
    - Orientation about NRSP and each sector (different session one with each sector head)
    - Orientation meeting with the Institute of Rural Management <https://www.irm.edu.pk>
    - Introductory session with the Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN) <https://www.rspn.org>
    - APF Fellows design and finalize the studies / assessments they plan to undertake, finalizing survey tools (where needed) or other information that they want to gather /observe during their field visit. Concerned sector heads (M&E team) shall guide them during this process.
- Week 1 onward
  - APF Fellows will be assigned to work with concerned departments in order to start work on their assignments
- Week 2 onward
  - Finalization of field visit plans of APF Fellows
- Weeks 3 & 4
  - Field Visits (where required as some of the Fellows may stay and work with different departments within Islamabad).
- Week 5
  - Back to office and completion of assignments by the Fellows
- Week 6
  - Presentation of assignments by the Fellows to the NRSP's management
  - Debriefing
  - Departure of APF Fellows from Pakistan

## **Qualifications:**

- Candidate is at least a rising junior or current graduate student.
- Coursework and academic projects preferably related to development, health, Pakistan or South Asia, as well as a demonstrated ability to work efficiently and collaboratively.
- Proficient English-language writing skills and superior communication skills. Urdu and/or other regional languages are a plus.
- Candidate must hold US Citizenship or permanent residency and must live in the United States.

## **General Requirements:**

- Fellows must participate in all required meetings and briefings for the fellowship.
- Fellows must participate in APF weekly check-in meetings to provide an update on their projects.
- Fellows should develop a personalized professional development plan outlining their goals, objectives, and strategies for skill enhancement and career advancement. This plan can serve as a roadmap for their professional growth and development throughout the fellowship.
- Fellows must submit weekly progress reports detailing their activities, achievements, and challenges encountered to provide a transparent overview of their work and facilitate ongoing support and guidance from mentors.
- Fellows must write an article for the APF website, provide a testimonial about their experience, and present their work in a webinar to the APF Leadership Council and Board of Directors.
- Excellent organizational, logistical, and administrative skills.
- Research and writing skills.