



Program: The Organizing and Leadership Academy (TOLA)
Length of Fellowship: 4 months (Mid-July to Mid-November)
Living Stipend: \$2,500 a month

Summary of Program

The results of our national election are a wake up call for those who care about a robust democracy, a just society, equal opportunity for all people, and for those who believe that by working together we can improve our communities and our world. Now more than ever, organizers are needed to provide leadership to improve community health, protect immigrant rights, and push for better water quality and environmental protection.

TOLA is a one-of-a-kind, rigorous, non-ideological, “hands-on” training program for individuals interested and motivated to pursue a career in organizing. TOLA Fellows spend sixteen weeks in a “real-life” organizing boot camp. During this intensive fellowship, TOLA Fellows work on community organizing projects and campaigns, participate in classroom instruction, are required to do significant reading and reflective writing, and are challenged weekly by engaging guests who have included Marshall Ganz, Larry Tramatola, Fred Ross Jr., Dolores Huerta, and other experienced and effective organizers and leaders throughout California.

Who can apply?

Anyone committed to learning the skills necessary in making a difference in their communities who are between the ages of 22 – 35. We do not accept individuals who are part-time students or have other part-time commitments.

What is the time commitment?

Each TOLA Fellow commits to a full-time organizer’s schedule (up to six-days a week) for four months, from late-July to mid-November.

What are the qualifications of a TOLA Fellow?

- Associate or baccalaureate degree, or relevant life experience.
- Interested in making a difference in education, community health, economic and transit development, and increasing civic participation.
- Excellent interpersonal skills.
- Strong presentation, teaching, and writing skills.
- Keen analytical skills.
- A desire to learn.
- Ability to work with diverse racial/ethnic communities.
- A reliable source of transportation (eg., car)
- Bilingual fluency in Spanish/Mandarin/Cantonese is a plus.

Is there a stipend?

Yes. TOLA provides a living stipend to all Fellows during the program of **\$10,000 (\$2,500 per month)** for the duration of the Fellowship.

Where should my application, resume, and letters of recommendation be sent?

Please send them via email to: christiang@tolacademy.org — or mail to: 191 Ridgeway Ave., Oakland, CA 94611 (ATTN: Christian Garcia – TOLA).

Questions?

Call Christian Garcia at (510) 658-7003 or email at christiang@tolacademy.org

Apply or find out more about TOLA at tolacademy.org

Application Deadline – Friday May 26, 2017 by 5 pm