

General Questions

What is the AV Fellowship?

The Access Ventures Fellowship is a 12-month program designed to support bold leaders who are developing impactful projects that foster human flourishing. Fellows receive mentorship, networking opportunities, and a \$20,000 stipend to help advance their work.

Who is eligible to apply?

Applicants must be between the ages of **22-30** and based in the **United States**. The fellowship is designed for individuals who are already working in their field and want to deepen their impact through their project.

When do applications open and close?

Applications open on a rolling basis, but those submitted after **January 31** are considered for the following year's cohort. Finalists are notified by **March 22**, and the fellowship begins in **July**.

Application & Selection Process

Can I apply if I missed the deadline?

Unfortunately, we do not accept late applications. However, you are welcome to apply for the next cohort.

Do I need to have a fully developed project to apply?

Your project should be **beyond the ideation stage**, meaning you should have a clear vision, some groundwork completed, and a plan for implementation.

What materials are required for the application?

Applicants must submit:

- A completed application form
- A project proposal
- A resume/CV
- A letter of recommendation
- A completed **Culture Index survey** (sent after application submission)

What is the Culture Index survey, and why is it required?

The Culture Index survey helps us understand your work style, leadership traits, and how you might engage with the fellowship community. It is an essential part of the application process.



Can I apply with a co-founder or as part of a team?

No, the fellowship is an **individual** experience. If multiple people from a team are interested, they must apply separately.

Do I have to be working on my project full-time?

No, but you should be able to commit **5-10 hours per week** to your project and the fellowship activities.

Program Commitments & Expectations

How much time does the fellowship require?

Fellows should expect to dedicate **5-10 hours per week** to their project, fellowship programming, and mentorship.

What are the in-person requirements?

Fellows are required to attend **three in-person gatherings** throughout the year, starting with the orientation from **July 29 – August 1 in Vail, CO**. All travel expenses (within reason) are covered by Access Ventures.

What kind of mentorship and resources are provided?

Fellows receive access to industry mentors, leadership development opportunities, and connections to potential partners, funders, and collaborators. We also provide **strategic guidance** to help refine and scale each fellow's impact.

Is the stipend an investment in my project?

No, the \$20,000 stipend is **not** an equity investment. It is unrestricted funding to help support your project and personal expenses during the fellowship.

Can I use the fellowship to fund my business venture?

No. The AV Fellowship is **not a business grant or investment fund**—it is designed to support individuals exploring a project that contributes to **human flourishing**. While some fellows may be working on entrepreneurial ventures, the fellowship is **not just for growing a business**. Instead, it should be focused on **a broader social impact, systemic change, or community engagement**. Applications that solely seek funding for a business without a strong mission-driven or community-centered component will not be considered.

How does the fellowship stipend affect my taxes?



The \$20,000 stipend provided by the AV Fellowship is considered taxable income. **Fellows will receive a 1099 form** for tax reporting purposes. We recommend consulting with a tax professional to understand how this may impact your tax liability and whether any deductions or estimated tax payments may be necessary.

Post-Fellowship

What happens after the fellowship?

Fellows join the **AV Fellowship Alumni Network**, where they continue to receive support, collaboration opportunities, and access to resources. Many fellows go on to secure additional funding, scale their projects, or take on leadership roles in their industries.

This FAQ will be updated as new questions arise. We appreciate your interest in the AV Fellowship and look forward to supporting bold leaders in their work!