

**BLOOMBERG  
HARVARD**

City  
Leadership  
Initiative

# 2025 Summer Fellowship

Information Session

# Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative



- Equips mayors and senior city officials with **training, tools, and support** to tackle challenges and **improve quality of life** for residents
- Advances the field of city leadership through **teaching, research, and new curricular materials** that help **city leaders drive government performance**
- Inspires **future generations** of effective city leaders

# Summer Fellowship Context and Goals

## Summer Fellows add critical, short-term capacity and help cities to:

- Deploy analytical, collaborative, and innovative problem-solving skills to make progress on a chosen priority issue.
- Reflect on current practices, gain awareness of promising practices deployed in other cities, and experiment with new approaches.
- Access new technologies and leverage and invest in new skills.

## In turn, Summer Fellows gain:

- Exposure to and a deeper understanding of city government.
- An opportunity to have an impact on a pressing challenge and improve resident lives.



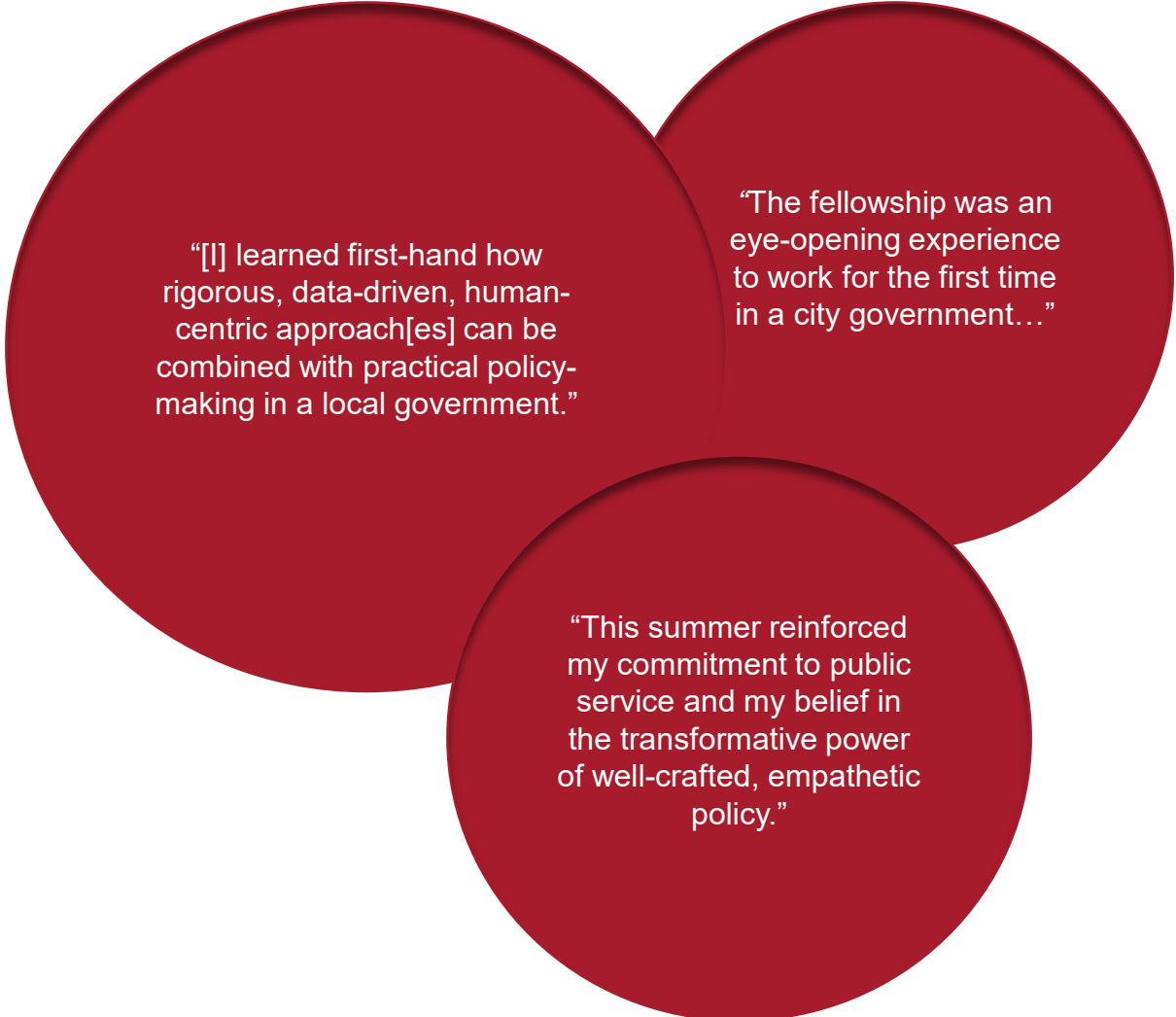
# Impact on Students

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Students addressed **real-world problems**, gaining invaluable experience working in cities. Fellowships provided **reinforcement** for students with backgrounds in the public sector and **newfound interest** for those applying their learnings from graduate programs as well as their prior non-public sector work experience to city projects.

## Student impact from participation includes:

- Experience of working closely with cities on issues of salience and urgency
- Improved clarity in applying degree coursework to city projects
- Skill development and competency building on the job
- New or reinforced interest in the public sector
- Greater awareness of city government's impact on resident lives



"[I] learned first-hand how rigorous, data-driven, human-centric approach[es] can be combined with practical policy-making in a local government."

"The fellowship was an eye-opening experience to work for the first time in a city government..."

"This summer reinforced my commitment to public service and my belief in the transformative power of well-crafted, empathetic policy."

# 2025 Summer Fellows Receive

- \$9,000 stipend + travel support
- Support from faculty advisors and Bloomberg Harvard staff throughout the fellowship
- Dedicated senior-level city supervisors responsible for support, feedback, and implementation of key project recommendations after the fellowship concludes
- Opportunity to apply a variety of skillsets including process improvement, strategic planning and implementation, design-thinking, performance management, and assessing program effectiveness
- Opportunity to present to mayors at the culmination of the fellowship
- Possibility to share insights and impact from fellowship with the broader Harvard community through speaking events and published pieces
- Possibility to continue to work with the Bloomberg Center for Cities as a research assistant or in other roles



# Who Should Apply?

- Harvard graduate students (including Class of 2025 graduates)
- Students with strong skills and ability in the following areas: data analysis, stakeholder management, qualitative analysis, financial modeling, mapping (GIS), policy analysis, design thinking, and writing and editing
- Select projects for 2025 may require language fluency (i.e. Spanish)
- Self-starters able to work independently as well as in teams
- Students with a passion and interest in the future of cities and desire to bring a thoughtful equity lens to the work



# 2025 Summer Fellowship Application Process

*Note: Dates may shift.*



**Application Opens** — Late January 2025



**Application Closes** — Early February 2025

*(multi-round application)*



**City Interviews** — Mid February 2025



**Fellowship Offers Extended** — Early March 2025



**Cohort Selected** — March 21, 2025



**Orientation and Pre-Departure Workshops** — April 2025



## City Hall Fellowship Team



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## Summer Fellowship Team



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