



Austin Area Research Organization

FRANK MCBEE JR. FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM IN CIVIC ENTREPRENEURSHIP

2017 Program Year

Austin Area Research Organization (AARO) is accepting applications for the 2017 Class of Frank McBee Jr. Fellows. Completed applications are due by **5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 12, 2016.**

AUSTIN AREA RESEARCH ORGANIZATION

AARO, a non-partisan, non-profit organization, is a think-tank of 100 business and community leaders. AARO engages regional leaders in data-driven, deliberative action to advance the long-term economic and social well-being of Central Texas. AARO focuses its efforts in five priority areas: Energy & Water, Health Care, P-16 Education, Social Equity and Transportation. The AARO membership reflects the diverse base of the Central Texas region with representation from industry, manufacturing, real estate, finance, health care, professional firms, the arts, and educational, religious, and charitable institutions. More information about AARO is available at www.aaroregion.com.

THE FRANK MCBEE JR. FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM IN CIVIC ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Frank McBee Jr. Fellows Program is a rigorous, 13-month program for civic leadership development. Frank McBee Jr. Fellowships offer exceptional Central Texas leaders first-hand, practical experience working with regional civic entrepreneurs on a variety of public policy issues to improve the long-term economic and social quality of life for all Central Texans.

During the program year, Fellows actively engage with many of the region's most influential business and community leaders through AARO committee and membership meetings. In addition, each Fellow meets regularly with 2 AARO mentors throughout the year. AARO carefully selects the mentors for each Fellow to maximize their growth as leaders and enhance the quality of the Fellowship experience. Fellows are expected to repay the privilege of participating in the Fellowship year by contributing to the region as future leaders.



CRITERIA

Selection of Frank McBee Jr. Fellows is highly competitive with a number of attributes being considered, including:

- Proven portfolio of community experience and leadership
- Diversity of thought and experience
- Passion for making a difference in the economic and social well-being of Central Texas
- Alignment with AARO's objectives and regional focus
- Capacity and commitment to participate fully at the AARO committee level

AARO will select up to 10 Fellows for 2017.

Applicants must live in Bastrop, Burnet, Caldwell, Hays, Travis or Williamson counties. Applications from most elected officials or candidates running for elected office will not be considered. AARO will consider applications from school board or community college trustees and candidates.

COMMITMENT

McBee Fellows are expected to attend at least two 90 minute committee meetings during the noon hour each month, and the bi-monthly membership meetings from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Some schedule flexibility is needed in order to participate in or attend other occasional meetings.

The selection committee *may* interview finalists for the 2017 Class of McBee Fellows the morning of **Wednesday, September 28, 2016.**

The first commitments of the 2017 McBee Fellows will be orientation and the 2016 AARO Annual Meeting and Retreat.

2017 McBee Fellow Orientation: Friday, October 28, 2016, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

AARO Annual Meeting & Retreat: Monday, November 14, 2016, 12:00 noon – 5:00 p.m.

Applicants should reserve these dates on their calendars.

The Fellowship year begins December 1, 2016 and concludes December 31, 2017.

PROGRAM FEES

Program fees for 2017 will likely be \$1,575 for dues and \$295 for the meal fee. (Fees will be approved in November 2016.) The Annual Meeting and Retreat registration fee is \$125. Fellows are expected to attend the Annual Meeting and Retreat in both November 2016 and November 2017. Fellows may pay up front or in scheduled installments. AARO staff will work with Fellows to create a payment plan.



APPLICATION PROCESS & TIMELINE

To apply, please submit the following items:

- Completed Applicant Information form.
- A statement of interest explaining your interest in AARO and serving as a Fellow (200-425 words). Use the form included in the Applicant Information packet.
- A statement describing an experience you've had when working on a community project that illustrates the reason you'd be a good fit for the McBee Fellowship Program (200-425 words). Use the form included in the Applicant Information packet.
- Résumé, with particular attention to volunteer involvement in Austin or the region.
- Two letters of reference. Only 2 letters will be read. Reference writers should submit letters directly to the AARO office.

Completed applications, including letters of reference, must be postmarked or received no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, August 12, 2016. Please send to:

Frank McBee Jr. Fellows Program
c/o Austin Area Research Organization
114 W. 7th St., Suite 800
Austin, TX 78701

OR

Email: aaro@aaroregion.com

OR

FAX: 512-477-5366

AARO anticipates selecting the class of 2017 McBee Fellows by October 21, 2016. Applicants will be notified by phone or email.

Application Checklist

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Applicant Information sheet<input type="checkbox"/> Statement of Interest (200-425 words)<input type="checkbox"/> Statement of Experience (200-425 words)<input type="checkbox"/> Résumé, with particular attention to volunteer involvement in Austin or the region<input type="checkbox"/> Letter of recommendation #1 – <i>sent directly to AARO by individual making the recommendation</i><input type="checkbox"/> Letter of recommendation #2 – <i>sent directly to AARO by individual making the recommendation</i> |
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