



## IMPERIAL COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **The County of Imperial is Accepting Applications for 2021 Fellowship Program for College Students**

**April 9, 2021** – The County of Imperial is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for the 2021 Fellowship Program. This unique opportunity will prepare college students for work in the various sectors of county local government by providing them opportunities for mentorship, service projects, scholarship funds, and employment. Selected applicants will be awarded a \$20,000 scholarship and limited term, full-time employment contract with the County of Imperial for a total fellowship award valued at \$95,000.

Interested students have until May 14, 2021 to submit an application through the Imperial County Free Library website at [www.library.imperialcounty.org](http://www.library.imperialcounty.org). The initial 2021 cohort is scheduled to begin in Summer of 2021 and will consist of five Fellows, preferably one from each supervisorial district. Fellows are expected to be announced at the June 22, 2021 Imperial County Board of Supervisors meeting. Please see the attached Eligibility & Application Guidelines, FAQ's, and Participation Timeline for additional details and application information.

“The Fellowship program is the first of its kind to be offered by the County and it is a very generous award. I applaud the Board of Supervisors for their vision to provide this opportunity to college students. I am confident we will have strong applicants who have demonstrated leadership and are eager to learn from and alongside County leaders through this program.”

Chairman Mike Kelley, District 3 Supervisor, added, “The Board is thankful for the work done by our County Librarian and her staff as this program will help identify and, most importantly, help those young individuals who will continue to lead our County towards a better and brighter future.”

The 2021 County Fellowship is a pilot program that was approved by the Imperial County Board of Supervisors in March 2021 utilizing \$1 million of Public Benefit Program funds. The Public Benefit Program was established by the Board of Supervisors in 2012. The County of Imperial receives funds from solar projects located in the unincorporated areas of the county and the County Board of Supervisors have identified Goals and Objectives in order to maximize the benefits of these funds.

[Continued on next page]

For more information on the Fellowship program and the application process, contact Crystal Duran, County Librarian, at [crystalduran@co.imperial.ca.us](mailto:crystalduran@co.imperial.ca.us)

[Attachments Included]

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