Fellowship Program Frequently Asked Questions

Can World Forestry Center provide full scholarships or funding for the Fellowship program?
Every year, we award scholarships for qualified candidates on financial need bases. The scholarship accounts for 50% of the program fee ($5,000 USD). Scholarship recipients are responsible for paying for visa fees and traveling costs.

What is expected from me when I apply?
Your project proposal should clearly outline your learning objectives. We understand that in the course of your time here, you may have to adapt your proposal. You will also need to secure at least half of the funding for your Fellowship. Additionally, we recommend securing supplemental funding for items not covered by the program (such as travel). Aside from that, bring an open mind, a positive attitude, initiative, and rain gear!

What type of visa is necessary for the Fellowship?
Fellows arrive on a J-1 visa sponsored through the US Department of State’s J-1 Visa Exchange Visitor Program. The visa program application is handled by a third-party organization, Experience International. The J-1 Visa Exchange Visitor Program is designed to allow participants to come to the United States to gain exposure to US culture and receive training in US business practices in their chosen field. Upon completion of the program, participants are expected to return to their home countries where they will be able to utilize their newly learned skills and knowledge to advance their careers and to share their experience with their peers and others.

Is housing provided for me?
World Forestry Center assists Fellows with finding ONE housing option for their first month in Portland. After a month, Fellows can decide if they want to stay in the assigned housing for the entire fellowship. Typically, Fellows rent a room out of someone's house or are hosted by a family while they are here. Craigslist Portland and HotPads are two useful websites for finding housing.