

GEORGIA WOMEN'S POLICY INSTITUTE

SPELMAN COHORT FAQ

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Where do I apply for the GWPI program?

- Applications for the 2024-25 GWPI Spelman Cohort can be found here. We will accept applications on a rolling basis until **April 1st**.

What is involved in applying to the GWPI program?

- The application process for our 2024-25 GWPI Spelman Cohort includes two main components: [the student application](#) and the [recommender's form](#). The student application includes a series of demographic questions and short response questions, as well as spaces to upload your resume, personal statement, unofficial transcript, and academic/professional biography. If all of your materials are already prepared, the application should take no more than 30 minutes to complete.
- The recommender's form is meant to take the place of a traditional letter of recommendation, and it is also due by **April 1st**. It includes a combination of mostly multiple-choice questions and a few short response questions. Only one submitted recommender's form is required for an application to be considered complete, and it should take no more than 20 minutes for the recommender to fill it out. More information about the recommender's form and how to access it can be found [here](#) (we highly recommend that you share the additional information with your recommender).

When will I be notified about the results of my application?

- We will contact applicants by April 15th to let them know whether they have been selected for the 2024-2025 GWPI Spelman Cohort.

How is my application reviewed?

- Multiple staff members review all of your application materials holistically to determine who will be a good fit for the program and who will gain invaluable benefits from the experience. If it is determined that more information would be helpful in our selection process, we will hold interviews via zoom.

ELIGIBILITY QUESTIONS

Do I have to be a public policy major or already in Spelman's Social Justice program?

- No. The GWPI program is designed to provide a comprehensive foundation for all Fellows, so previous experience/education in public policy or social justice is not necessary. All applicants who are accepted into the GWPI program and are not already a part of Spelman's Social Justice Program will be added.

Why is there a GPA requirement?

- We want applicants to be able to get the most out of the GWPI program by dedicating adequate time and effort. The 3.2 minimum GPA requirement ensures that students have a solid foundation in their degree program and won't have to worry about catching up while participating in the GWPI program.

PROGRAM QUESTIONS

What are the program dates for the 2024-2025 GWPI Spelman Cohort?

- An orientation for the new cohort will be held on June 9th via zoom, time TBD. 6 training sessions will be held throughout the first semester, beginning in late August, but the specific dates will be determined once the 2024-2-25 academic calendar for Spelman College is released. Trainings will be held in person in the Laura Spelman Multipurpose Room on Sunday afternoons from 12:30-3pm.
- The second semester will be focused on experiential learning and dates/events will be dependent upon the legislative schedule and partner organization lobby days, dates to be determined in early 2025.

What is the time commitment during the program?

- Students can expect to dedicate approximately 20 hours per semester to the GWPI program. The first semester will include scheduled training sessions and other cohort co-working sessions, while the second semester will include hands-on legislative advocacy and meetings.

How do I balance school and other responsibilities with the GWPI program?

- The GWPI Spelman Cohort is designed to work well alongside your commitment as a full-time student. The schedule and format of the activities are chosen to ensure that participating students are able to fully engage with all of the opportunities that the GWPI program has to offer. We will also not conduct any trainings outside of the academic calendar.
- We also offer Independent Study credit or \$500 stipends for both semesters of the program: to alleviate some of the academic and financial burden that students might otherwise feel while participating in internships.