

Roosevelt Fellow FAQs

2023-2024 Application Process

Interested in becoming a Roosevelt Fellow, but aren't sure what the position might entail? Here are some frequently asked questions to give you some background!

Q: Who is eligible to be a Roosevelt Fellow? What is the size and composition of the group?

A: Rising juniors and seniors are eligible to apply for the position of Roosevelt Fellow. **The commitment is for the full academic year, so students studying abroad in 2023-2024 or graduating in Fall 2023 are not eligible.** Roosevelt Fellows have a variety of academic interests and are engaged in a range of extracurricular activities. **The group of approximately 10 students is composed mostly of seniors, with about 2-3 juniors. We are looking to hire 7-9 students for next academic year.**

Q: What qualities are you looking for in your candidates?

A: We are looking for students who are academically engaged, demonstrate balance in their academics and extracurricular activities, show resilience in bouncing back from challenges, and who take advantage of campus resources. Strong candidates will also have a keen interest in working with new students from all academic interests. We value diversity in all of its forms and believe it is critical to building a team that reflects the identities of the student body. **Roosevelt Fellows should be in good academic standing, but there is no specific GPA cutoff for this position.** We are looking for students who can represent a variety of perspectives, and we welcome students with one major to apply.

Q: What does applying to be a Roosevelt Fellow entail?

A: Students interested in applying to be a Roosevelt Fellow will complete a written application that will be posted on our web site in mid February and also emailed to all eligible applicants. About 10-15 semi-finalists will be selected for individual interviews. Final decisions will be made by mid-April.

Q: Is attending an applicant information session required?

A: Applicants must either attend an information session on zoom or book an individual meeting with one of the staff coordinators (Katie Dunn or Kiernan Aquisto) or a current RF to get an overview of the position.

Q: What are the responsibilities of a Roosevelt Fellow?

A: Roosevelt Fellows are peer academic advisors who support students, especially new students, as they navigate Brandeis academic life. Roosevelt Fellow responsibilities include: holding regular advising office hours, communicating with assigned advisees during the summer and academic year, developing and executing academic programs and initiatives, attending regular meetings and training, and completing committee tasks.

Q: What are some of the events planned by Roosevelt Fellows?

A: Fellows have the opportunity to develop their own events around themes each month, such as study skills, building connections with faculty, and exploring majors. Fellows are sometimes also invited to participate in events held by other student leaders such as CAs. Fellows typically offer group advising events prior to registration and a welcome meet and greet at the start of each semester.

Q: How big of a time commitment is the position? Will I get paid?

A: The time commitment averages about 2-5 hours per week but does increase during peak periods such as registration periods. Students will be paid at a rate of \$15.00/hr.

Q: How many advisees will I be working with?

A: All incoming first year, midyear and transfer students are split among the Roosevelt Fellows. You can expect around 80-100 advisees with a variety of interests and backgrounds. It is the responsibility of the Roosevelt Fellow to reach out to advisees regularly via email and respond to correspondence from advisees in a timely manner. You may also have upper

class students or students from outside your caseload meeting with you, as Roosevelt Fellows help triage student inquiries to academic services advisors.

Q: What are some common questions students ask Roosevelt Fellows?

A: Students may ask specific course planning questions such as: “What classes should I take?” “Does my schedule look okay?” “What classes do you recommend for this major?” “What is this professor like?” Students may also ask broader questions such as: “How do I balance academics and extracurriculars?” “How do I manage stress?” “How can I study more effectively” or “How do I explore interests and make decisions?”

Q: What is the difference between a Roosevelt Fellow and other leadership positions on campus?

A: Roosevelt Fellows hold their position year round and are trained to answer questions across all academic departments. Roosevelt Fellows are also able to address questions and concerns related to academic policy or other academic difficulties students may experience, especially in the first year. They receive specialized training on academic advising techniques and academic resources.

Roosevelt Fellows are often compared with Undergraduate Department Representatives (UDRs) We have outlined the differences between the roles [here](#).

Q: Are there any student roles that would make someone not eligible to become a Roosevelt Fellow?

A: Students are welcome to apply for multiple campus leadership opportunities and make a decision based on the results of the selection processes. While we will not exclude anyone based on other roles they may be applying to, it may be a factor in our final selection process. We ask that students be transparent with us during the application process about other roles they are applying to. We will do our best to coordinate with campus partners to learn about the timing of their processes and any potential training overlaps.

Q: What is training like?

A: Training involves learning how to advise students, understanding policy and degree requirements, information about various departments on campus, as well as bonding and leadership activities. Training takes place in different formats (asynchronous, synchronous, in person and virtual). More information about training will be provided in the late spring/early summer.

Q: If I applied to be a Roosevelt Fellow last year, should I apply again? What are my chances?

A: If you are still interested in the role, then yes, please apply again! We select very few rising juniors, so the odds are better that you may be selected as a rising senior. Questions on our application may be similar from last year, so we ask that you do not submit the same application responses. We are looking for you to demonstrate personal growth and additional experience through your answers.

Q: Is it fun to be a Roosevelt Fellow, or is it all work and no play?

A: It’s fun to be a Roosevelt Fellow! While there is work involved in advising students, or organizing events, it is rewarding to build relationships with students and create programs! Roosevelt Fellows hone leadership and interpersonal skills and put them into action. Additionally, Fellows form close relationships with the staff of Academic Services and their teammates, many of whom are new connections.