

## **Roosevelt Fellow FAQs**

### **2025-2026 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 the 2026-2027 academic year or graduating in Fall 2026 are not eligible.** Roosevelt Fellows have a variety of academic interests and are engaged in a range of extracurricular activities. **The group of approximately 10-12 students is composed of about half juniors and half seniors. We are looking to hire 7-9 students for the 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 emailed to all eligible candidates who have been recommended to apply. About 15-18 semi-finalists will be selected for individual interviews. Final selection 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 the staff program supervisor, Julia Mani, 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 relevant topics, such as building connections with faculty, or exploring and declaring 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 the fall semester. They also participate in tabling with the staff academic advisors during registration periods.

#### **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 and transfer students are split among the Roosevelt Fellows. You can expect around 80-100 advisees. We do our best to match incoming students with Roosevelt Fellows based on areas of academic interest (for

example, students who have indicated an interest in pursuing Business or Economics may be placed with a Roosevelt Fellow who is an Econ or Business major). 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 staff 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. Because of the specific roles and responsibilities of the roles, students cannot be an OL and a Roosevelt Fellow at the same time, and must choose between the two if selected for both. For all other roles, we will do our best to coordinate with campus partners to learn about the timing of their processes and any potential training overlaps. We ask that students be transparent with us during the application process about other roles they are applying to or planning to continue.

**Q: What is training like? What is required of Roosevelt Fellows during the summer?**

**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).

Roosevelt Fellows do not need to be physically on campus in the summer *until* a few days prior to August orientation, when in person training as a group occurs. In June and July, however, you do need to be able to complete asynchronous training (a time commitment of around 2-3 hours per week), and to be available for advising meetings with incoming students during registration (these meeting times can be scheduled at the times that work best for you).

**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! Questions on our application may be similar from last year, so we ask that you do not submit the same application responses- and you will likely have new experiences and insights to share! 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 a lot of 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.