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5 U.S. Code § 3171 - Presidential Innovation Fellows Program

U.S. Code Notes

(a) Policy.—

It is in the national interest for the Government to attract the brightest minds skilled in technology or innovative practices to serve in the Government to work on some of the Nation's biggest and most pressing challenges. This subchapter establishes a program to encourage successful entrepreneurs, executives, and innovators to join the Government and work in close cooperation with Government leaders, to create meaningful solutions that can help save lives and

taxpayer money, fuel job creation, and significantly improve how the Government serves the American people.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—

The Administrator of General Services shall continue the Presidential Innovation Fellows Program (hereinafter referred to as the “Program”) to enable exceptional individuals with proven track records to serve time-limited appointments in executive agencies to address some of the Nation’s most significant challenges and improve existing Government efforts that would particularly benefit from expertise using innovative techniques and technology.

(c) ADMINISTRATION.—

The Program shall be administered by a Director, appointed by the Administrator under authorities of the General Services Administration. The Administrator shall provide necessary staff, resources and administrative support for the Program.

(d) APPOINTMENT OF FELLOWS.—

The Director shall appoint fellows pursuant to the Program and, in cooperation with executive agencies, shall facilitate placement of fellows to participate in projects that have the potential for significant positive effects and are consistent with the President’s goals.

(e) APPLICATION PROCESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

The Director shall prescribe the process for applications and nominations of individuals to the Program.

(2) PROGRAM STANDARDS.—

Following publication of these processes, the Director may accept for consideration applications from individuals. The Director shall establish, administer, review, and revise, if appropriate, a Governmentwide cap on the number of fellows. The Director shall establish and publish salary ranges, benefits, and standards for the Program.

(f) SELECTION, APPOINTMENT, AND ASSIGNMENT OF FELLOWS.—

(1) PROCEDURES.—

The Director shall prescribe appropriate procedures for the selection, appointment, and assignment of fellows.

(2) CONSULTATION.—

Prior to the selection of fellows, the Director shall consult with the heads of executive agencies regarding potential projects and how best to meet those needs. Following such consultation, the Director shall select and appoint individuals to serve as fellows.

(3) TIME LIMITATION.—

Fellows selected for the Program shall serve under short-term, time-limited appointments. Such fellows shall be appointed for no less than 6 months and no longer than 2 years in the Program. The Director shall facilitate the process of placing fellows at requesting executive agencies.

(g) RESPONSIBILITIES OF AGENCIES.—

Each executive agency shall work with the Director and the Presidential Innovation Fellows Program advisory board established under section 3172 to attempt to maximize the Program's benefits to the agency and the Government, including by identifying initiatives that have a meaningful effect on the people served and that benefit from involvement by one or more fellows. Such agencies shall ensure that each fellow works closely with responsible senior officials for the duration of the assignment.

(Added Pub. L. 115–1, § 2(a), Jan. 20, 2017, [131 Stat. 3.](#))