



I write to tell you about a generous master's level fellowship and internship program for minority students. Called the [Newhouse Graduate Newspaper Fellowship for Minorities](#), this competitive program attracts those who want to write, report and tell important stories. It also appeals to those who are interested in multimedia and understand the necessity of innovation. The goal of this initiative is to diversify newsrooms and editorial staffs by launching the careers of those from underrepresented groups as newspaper or magazine journalists.

Two awards are given annually — each worth more than \$60,000. The two selected fellows study in the [Magazine, Newspaper, and Online Journalism](#) master's program at the [S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications](#) at [Syracuse University](#). The fellowship combines 18 months of graduate study with a professional internship and provides free tuition, a monthly stipend that totals \$1,400, health insurance coverage, and more than \$3,000 of additional benefits.

As part of that program, students begin with classes that develop their abilities in newswriting, capturing and editing video and audio, taking still photographs, navigating social media, and understanding content management. Students spend subsequent coursework exploring journalism ethics, editing, and understanding communication law — along with the opportunity to take three electives, which students use to enhance a skill set or to build expertise in a content area such as political reporting, data, sports reporting, or environmental reporting.

The [application](#) deadline is January 15, 2020. Candidates must provide three letters of recommendation, a résumé, and a personal statement. No GRE is required. Please contact me with any questions about the program or the fellowship, and I hope you encourage qualified individuals to apply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melissa Chessher".

Melissa Chessher  
Director, Magazine, Newspaper and Online Journalism Graduate Program  
S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications  
[Mchesshe@syr.edu](mailto:Mchesshe@syr.edu)