

## NAIC International Fellows Program

Building on the success of the China Intern-Pilot Program in 2004, the NAIC developed a formal International Internship Program in 2005 to advance working relations with foreign markets, emphasizing the exchange of regulatory techniques and technology. The program was formally renamed the International Fellows Program in 2010 and is conducted twice a year — spring and fall.

The NAIC International Fellows Program is offered in two formats, virtually every Spring and in person every Fall. Prior to the global pandemic, the program was held in person during both sessions; however, operating the program virtually during the pandemic was successful and demonstrated a number of benefits. The Spring session provides the opportunity to international regulators that may not have the financial backing of their respective jurisdictions to attend the full program in person and allows for the accommodation of state legislative activities. The Fall session continues the hands-on engagement that is a hallmark for the program, during a time when more States have better capacity to serve as hosts. This hybrid model allows for the NAIC to reach a wider group of international regulators, while maintaining the focused and detailed outreach and in-depth experience that the program is highly regarded for globally.

Since its inception, the International Fellows Program has hosted over 300 participants in person and another 200 virtually from over 45 countries. Forty-two U.S. jurisdictions have hosted fellows.

The Spring session lasts for 1-week and consists of over twenty pre-recorded lectures led by NAIC technical experts. During the Fall session, International Fellows participate in a week-long orientation program at the Central Office in Kansas City, focusing on the broad principles of insurance regulation in the United States. Each fellow then travels to a different state for five weeks, working in technical areas of their specialization under the supervision of a state insurance department staff member, who serves as a mentor and host. The Fall session concludes in New York City with training at the NAIC Capital Markets and Investment Analysis Office, including roundtables with U.S. insurance industry representatives and consumer representatives and a ceremonial graduation dinner to highlight the fellows' accomplishments.

For the in-person session, prior to the fellows' arrival, a letter of agreement is signed between the host state and the NAIC to confirm participation by the state in the program and to set forth the terms of the Fellows Program. The host state is responsible for coordinating all logistical and technical aspects of their fellow's training that will occur during the fellow's five week stay in the host state in advance of the fellow's arrival, and throughout his/her stay with the assigned state insurance department.

Fellows and their home agencies cover ALL costs related to the fellow's travel expenses, lodging, meals, and incidental expenses.

*We always welcome new host states, so please contact Nikhail Nigam, NAIC International Relations Policy Advisor at [nnigam@naic.org](mailto:nnigam@naic.org), if you would like to host a fellow or learn more about the program.*

### **Sample Timeline of the Spring Session**

#### **Online Virtual Platform**

Training Dates: Mid-April (1 week)

Fellows can view all recorded presentations at the time most convenient to them.

### **Sample Timeline of the Fall Session**

#### **NAIC Central Office – Kansas City, MO**

Training Dates: Early-October (1 week)

Fellows arrive on a Saturday and depart for Host State on the following Saturday

#### **Host State—State Insurance Department**

Training Dates: Early/Mid-October to Mid-November (5 weeks)

Fellows depart for New York City Mid-November

#### **NAIC Capital Markets New York Office, New York City, NY**

Training Dates: Mid-November (2-days)

Fellows depart for their home jurisdictions