



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

National Park Service (NPS) Roger Kennedy Fellowship Program
Contexts of Environmental Policy Graduate Certificate
Frequently Asked Questions

1) When will the 2017 application period open?

The 2017 application period will open the week of March 27, 2017. The application period will close on June 1, 2017.

2) Can I apply if I am in a temporary or term position?

No. Employees must be in a competitive service permanent position as of May 28 (Pay Period 12) and have at least three (3) cumulative years of NPS work experience.

3) Do I need to be in the Washington, DC area to participate in the program?

Yes. Employees must be permanently based in the DC area or must arrange with their management to be in the DC area for approximately six to seven months. This second option allows employees who are on a long term detail within the DC area to participate in the program.

4) Is it possible to complete some of the certificate program virtually?

Yes. New for the 2017 application period, students not based in the DC area may try a blended learning approach to the certificate program. This option allows employees to complete one online course from their local area. However, this also requires employees to be in the DC area for either the Spring and Summer semesters (mid-January through early July 2018) or the Summer and Fall semesters (mid-May through early December 2018).

5) Could I complete the entire certificate virtually?

No, not at this time. However, the program can be completed by participating in the blended learning approach, with 75% of program (three courses) physically at the DC GWU campus and 25% virtually with one online course.

6) My undergraduate GPA is 2.9. Can I still apply to the certificate program?

No. An applicant must have a B (3.00) average or higher to apply for the program.

7) Do transcripts need to be sealed?

Yes. Transcripts are required from all colleges and universities attended whether or not credit was earned, the program was completed, or the credit appears as transfer credit on another transcript. Please provide sealed official transcripts to NPS Program Coordinator, Lisa Matarazzo (lisa_matarazzo@nps.gov).

8) Is the certificate program open to employees with completed graduate degrees?

Yes. Employees with graduate degrees can apply for the certificate program. Please provide all degree official transcripts--undergraduate and graduate.