

Practical Community Learning Project Fellowship
Program in Practical Policy Engagement (P3E)

Title: "Campaign Finance Policy"

Partner/client: Michigan State Representative District 26 Dylan Wegela

Terms: May 8, 2023 - June 16, 2023, 15 hours/week, \$15 per hour

The Ford School's Program in Practical Policy Engagement (P3E) is partnering with the office of State Representative Dylan Wegela to provide a short-term fellowship opportunity for up to four rising seniors or class of 2023 BA graduates from the Ford School.

State Rep. Dylan Wegela is serving his first term in District 26, including Garden City, Inkster, and parts of Romulus and Westland. Through his experiences, Rep. Wegela realized the importance of standing up for students, educators, and the working class, and he promised to bring this fight to the Michigan Legislature. His legislative priorities include education, increasing the minimum wage, health care, Medicare for All, seniors, environment, gun reform, protecting labor unions, preschool for all, criminal justice reform, Michigan's tax structure, protecting LGBTQ+ civil rights and infrastructure.

Rep. Wegela seeks four Ford School fellows to support political campaign finance research. Fellows will conduct desk research to gather federal, statewide, and local information. Fellows will attend Rep. Wegela's advisory council and stakeholder meetings to engage with residents and local elected officials. The engagement aims to inquire about constituent feelings regarding campaign finance reporting, donors, and donations. Finally, fellows will make policy recommendations based on best practices that promote transparency and accountability for elected officials. The final deliverables will include the following:

1. A brief report of all Michigan campaign finance policies and procedures
2. A visualization for District 26 residents detailing the steps to conduct campaign finance disclosure investigations
3. A qualitative report based on engagement during the District 26 Advisory Council meeting on May 27, 2023

Fellows will work in a hybrid mode throughout the project. Fellows must have access to reliable transportation for weekly meetings throughout Inkster, Westland, Garden City, Romulus, and Ann Arbor. Fellows will participate in weekly in-person skills workshops covering topics such as best practices in research, project management, and community engagement. The weekly workshops will occur Wednesdays from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm in Weill Hall. The project will also provide students with dialog, research, and engagement opportunities through in-person and remote meetings with the community partner, relevant stakeholders, and District

26 residents. Engagement meetings with the community partner will be held weekly on Mondays at 11:30 am via Zoom. Fellows must participate in “district days” by working at a different location in a city within District 26. Fellows will also conduct independent and group research outside formal project meetings.

Participating students will receive \$15 per hour.

This opportunity is limited to 4 current or graduating Ford School BA students. Interested students should submit their current resume and a short cover letter explaining their interest by COB on Thursday, May 4, to calvertd@umich.edu. Students will be notified of their status by Friday, May 5.