



nefac

The New England First Amendment Coalition

**New England First Amendment Institute
2014 Fellowship Application Materials**



New England First Amendment Institute

Fellowship Application

Deadline October 3, 2014

The New England First Amendment Institute will select 25 journalists — editors and reporters alike — to attend a three-day intensive training course on freedom of information laws and investigative techniques from Nov. 16-18 in Dedham, Massachusetts. To be eligible, an applicant must be a working journalist in print, digital or broadcast media in New England. The Institute is designed for both relatively new and veteran journalists, however, applicants should have at least two years of professional news reporting experience. Applicants currently working for a news organization must submit letters of recommendation from their current editors or supervisors, along with the application and required attachments. One additional recommendation from a former editor or supervisor is optional. Self-employed applicants may submit recommendations as described below. Broadcast journalists should submit their stories via links if possible, and on DVDs if not possible.

Please fully answer the questions below on a separate sheet of paper, restating the question.

- (1) Describe why you would like to attend the New England First Amendment Institute. What do you hope to take away from the program? What do you hope to add to the program?
- (2) Describe a problem you have encountered while investigating a story and how you reacted to it. Do you think attending the Institute might help you with similar difficulties in the future? If so, how?
- (3) Describe what you believe is your best asset as a journalist. Please tell us what you feel has been your greatest success as a journalist.
- (4) Tell us how you would spread the knowledge you gain at the Institute to others in your news organization.
- (5) The Institute is designed for professional journalists with different levels of experience and who are committed to continue working in journalism after the Institute. What skills do you hope to acquire during the Institute to help your journalism career over the next several years?

Required Attachments

- (1) Resume
- (2) Recommendation from a current editor/supervisor or, if self-employed, a former or current editor of your freelance work. Please use the Recommendation Form included in this application.
- (3) Portfolio of your three best investigative stories. If you have not done investigative work, please attach three news-based stories that represent your best effort.

Please submit your application, resume, portfolio and recommendation via email by October 3, 2014, to mail@nefirstamendment.org. If there is no acknowledgement from NEFAC, please confirm that your application has been received.



New England First Amendment Institute
Recommendation Form
Deadline October 3, 2014

Applicant Name _____

Applicant Position _____

Your Name _____

Your Position _____

Please fully answer the questions below in your letter of recommendation and attach your letter to this form.

(1) How long have you worked with the applicant, and in what capacity?

(2) How long have you known the applicant?

(3) In detail, what is your assessment of the quality of the applicant's work, and is the applicant capable of investigative reporting?

(4) Do you believe the applicant is firmly committed to freedom of information and will spread the knowledge gained through this fellowship?

Will your organization sponsor the applicant for the cost of the program (transportation plus two nights hotel stay in Dedham, Massachusetts)? If this cost would impose financial hardship on your organization or the applicant, please check the box below indicating the applicant should be considered for a scholarship.

Yes, applicant should be considered for a scholarship.

No, applicant should not be considered for a scholarship.