

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS: HBCU CHANGEMAKER FELLOWSHIP



The HBCU Changemaker Fellowship at the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies aims to cultivate a new generation of leaders deeply committed to driving innovative solutions to help shape more peaceful and just societies. This transformative fellowship empowers graduates with the comprehensive knowledge, skills, and values necessary to effectively address complex social issues and make lasting contributions to positive change in their communities and beyond.

ELIGIBILITY

Current HBCU seniors or alumni from any graduating year can apply to the Juris Doctor and Master of Arts in Peace and Justice Dual Degree*, Master of Arts in Social Innovation, and Master of Science in Conflict Management and Resolution for the Fall 2026 term and be eligible for the Kroc School HBCU Changemaker Fellowship Program.

FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Apply to the Kroc School degree program of your choice ([MASI](#), [MSCMR](#), [JD/MAPJ](#)*) by **February 1, 2026**. We suggest that one or both of your references submit a letter of recommendation mentioning their support of your HBCU Changemaker Fellowship candidacy in their letter. Within the degree program application, you will be asked to provide references.

**Students pursuing a concurrent JD/MAPJ degree are required to separately apply to both programs. In addition to the MAPJ admission requirements, see the University of San Diego School of Law for more information.*

Within the [degree program application](#)

- Select the degree program you are applying to and complete the application requirements.
- Under My Application, you will find the HBCU Changemaker Fellowship option in the Program Materials section of the application.
- Under the Questions section, select that you are applying for the HBCU Changemaker Fellowship.
- You will be prompted to reply to additional essay questions (also listed below for reference).
- Save your responses prior to submitting your application.

FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION ESSAY QUESTIONS

Help us understand what motivates you to be a leader committed to driving innovative solutions to help shape more peaceful and just societies. Please respond to the following prompts in no more than 1,250 words, approximately 250 words each.

1. Why are you interested in the Kroc School HBCU Changemaker Fellowship Program? How does the program's vision align with your personal and professional goals?
2. What specific skills or knowledge do you hope to gain from the Fellowship program, and how do you anticipate applying them to make a lasting contribution to your community and beyond?

3. How do you envision leveraging the interdisciplinary degree program from the Kroc School to further your ability to create a more peaceful and just society?
4. How will you measure the success and impact of your efforts during and after the Fellowship program? What indicators or metrics do you consider important in evaluating the effectiveness of your work?

The University of San Diego will email out admission decisions within six weeks of a completed program application. The Kroc School of Peace Studies will email out fellowship decisions within six weeks of the fellowship application deadline. Please contact krocadmissions@sandiego.edu with additional questions.