APA Division 18 Fellowship Criteria

Psychologists in Public Service

To be considered for Fellowship status in the American Psychological Association through Division 18, nominees must meet **APA's overarching Fellowship requirements**, including having **demonstrated evidence of unusual and outstanding contributions that have had a national impact in the field of psychology.**

In addition, Division 18 requires that nominees:

Eligibility Criteria

1. Be an APA member for at least one year at the time of nomination.
2. Be a member of Division 18 for at least one year at the time of nomination.
3. Demonstrate excellence and national impact in public service psychology in **at least two** of the following domains, with **documented evidence of sustained contribution:**

Domains of Contribution (at least two required)

1. Clinical Excellence and Innovation

- Development and dissemination of clinical models, practices, or interventions used nationally in public settings.
- Leadership in the implementation of evidence-based practices within complex public systems (e.g., VA, corrections, state hospitals).
- Contributions that improve outcomes for traditionally underserved or high-risk populations in public mental health care.

2. Education and Training

- Development of nationally recognized training programs or curricula in public service psychology.
- Leadership in training programs that have produced psychologists with a demonstrated impact on public mental health.
- National-level presentations or teaching in high-impact venues that influence the education of public service psychologists.

3. Research and Scholarship

- Original research with national impact that advances understanding or improves services for populations served in public settings.
- Publications or presentations that have influenced practice, policy, or future research in public mental health.

- Recognition as a thought leader in areas relevant to public service psychology (e.g., serious mental illness, criminal justice, veteran care, community psychology).

4. Advocacy

- Significant contributions to national policy or systems change related to public mental health, behavioral health equity, and/or social justice.
- Leadership or instrumental roles in professional organizations or governmental bodies promoting the interests of underserved or marginalized populations.
- Recognized public voice (e.g., media, policy testimony, position papers) influencing national discourse on public mental health.

5. Leadership

- Holding national-level leadership roles in professional, governmental, or nonprofit organizations with a focus on public service psychology.
- Leading large-scale or system-level public behavioral health initiatives that have demonstrably improved access, quality, or outcomes.
- Mentorship of future public service psychologists with national recognition of impact.

Nomination Materials Must Include:

- A statement/letter of interest explicitly addressing the nominee's contributions in at least two of the above domains and their national impact.
- The nominee's full CV.
- Three letters of support from current APA Fellows who can speak to the nominee's national contributions. Two of the letters must be from APA D18 Fellows.
- Supporting documentation (e.g., citations of publications, program descriptions, leadership roles) is encouraged.