JOINING TRUMAN

Our members enter our community through one of three paths: the Defense Council, the Political Partnership, or the Security Fellowship. All three cohorts follow the same first-year training programs, which lead to the same goal: full Truman membership.

Each cohort is full of skilled, passionate leaders who share a commitment to public service and a strong interest in national security. The main difference between the cohorts lies in the particular background and experience of each member. A community of equals, each cohort significantly contributes to the Truman Project, the national security conversation, and the larger realm of public service.

SECURITY FELLOWS
Policy experts, academics, and other thought leaders who anticipate and articulate new global challenges and opportunities. Many work within the U.S. national security apparatus and legislative bodies, as well as the international community and an expansive network of nongovernmental and private organizations.

POLITICAL PARTNERS
Political leaders, advocates, communicators, journalists, and aspiring or actively serving public officials. Fluent in campaign management, media, journalism, organizing, and more, they advance progressive principles and a shared liberal internationalist worldview at all levels of civil society.

DEFENSE COUNCIL
Veterans and frontline civilians who have firsthand experience implementing U.S. foreign policy. They have wide-ranging expertise in hard security and an ongoing professional interest in defense and intelligence operations as they continue to serve in government, business, policy, and nonprofit ventures.

IMPORTANT DATES
July 11: Application Opens
July 19: Virtual Open House I
August 9: Virtual Open House II
August 22: Application Closes
October: Applicant Interviews
January: Applicants Notified of Status

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR
- Policy expertise in academia, government institutions, non-profits or law
- On-the-ground experience from military service, global health, or humanitarian work
- Hard security expertise from defense contracting, intelligence or operations
- Political expertise from campaigns, fundraising, elected office, or grassroots organizing
- Communications expertise from consulting, speechwriting, and working in the press
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- $50 application fee
- Basic demographic information (optional)
- Six essay questions (approx. 200 - 250 words each)
- Résumé/CV
- Biography (500 words max.)
- Optional military service records such as a DD 214 form (if applicable and available, sanitized for personally identifiable information)
- Two letters of recommendation
- Optional additional materials (media appearances, publications, etc.)

FIRST YEAR MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

- Pay annual membership dues. Introductory due are $350. After the first year, dues are $250.
- Attend three-day orientation held in person in Washington, D.C. (Tentative date February 2023)
- Attend virtual membership training sessions throughout the year.
- Attend TruCon, Truman’s annual three-day members conference in Washington, D.C. The cost for previous years has been $250 for in-person attendance.
- Participate in the new members mentorship program that meets virtually once a month.
- Participate regularly in chapter events in order to foster a strong and trusted community.
- As problem-solvers in a gratitude-powered organization, we ask new members to support community efforts well and/or often enough to earn thanks from three staff or senior members.

APPLICATION INFO HERE!

LINK TO OPEN HOUSE 2021