



## What is COFLAN?

"COFLAN" is an acronym; it stands for **C**ollaborative of **F**irst-Generation and/or **L**ow-Income **A**lumni **N**etworks. COFLAN is a group of volunteer leaders of alumni networks that support FGLI (first-gen/low-income) students and/or alumni. COFLAN is a group of first-gen and/or low-income (FLI) alumni networks across the country that convene to establish and share best practices for alumni assisting FLI students with the challenges they face while in school and post-graduation. COFLAN hopes to serve as a resource to those interested in creating similar alumni networks at their alma maters. Through these collaborations, COFLAN will establish connections with and support each other, while celebrating those who are first.



## Who Should Apply?

- You identify as a FLI alum from a US institution
- You, and or a group of your fellow FLI alums, have identified an absence of an existing FLI alumni group at your school, or are in the process of founding a group
- You have an entrepreneurial spirit. You're innovative, resourceful, and willing to take initiative in building and leading a FLI alumni network
- You are interested in developing leadership and have the ability to effectively engage with school administrators, alumni, and other stakeholders in establishing and leading a FLI alumni network.

## Goals of program:

1. **Network Establishment:** Assist fellows in establishing robust first-generation/low-income (FLI) alumni networks at their respective alma maters, providing them with guidance on effective models and strategies for network development.
2. **Capacity Building:** Equip fellows with the necessary resources, skills, connections, and knowledge to effectively engage with their school administrations and stakeholders, enabling them to advocate for the needs and interests of FLI alumni within their institutions.



3. **Mentorship and Support:** Provide fellows with mentorship opportunities from experienced leaders who have successfully established FLI alumni networks, offering guidance, advice, and support throughout the network-building process.
4. **Community Expansion:** Foster the growth and expansion of the COFLAN network by cultivating a community and cohort of FLI alumni leaders who are committed to supporting each other and collaborating on initiatives aimed at advancing the interests of FLI students and alumni across various institutions.

### **Fellowship Opportunities:**

- Community building:
  - Fellows to attend monthly COFLAN meetings
  - Fellows are included in all COFLAN group communications
  - Fellows are encouraged to share COFLAN promotions/resources to their wider networks as ambassadors of the group
- Mentorship:
  - Each fellow/school group will be matched with a mentor founder whose institution may share similar characteristics
  - Mentor/mentee meeting at least once/quarter
- Resource/Knowledge sharing:
  - Fellows will have access to the COFLAN playbook
  - Fellows should attend all COFLAN webinars (quarterly)
- Establishing the alumni group:
  - Fellows will work with the group and their mentors to develop a roadmap for establishing a group at their school
  - Fellows should aim to have a group established by the end of the fellowship, or have a solid plan

### **Fellowship Requirements:**

Fellows should commit to:

- Attending initial Meet & Greet with COFLAN team
- Attending monthly COFLAN meetings and joining as a COFLAN member
- Attending quarterly COFLAN webinars during fellowship year
- Working with the COFLAN team & their mentor to develop a custom roadmap for establishing their FLI alumni network
- Establishing a FLI alumni network or making progress during the Fellowship year
- Assisting with promoting COFLAN resources & events to their wider networks



**Timeline:**

Application Deadline: July 31, 2024

Fellows will be notified by: August 15, 2024

Fellowship begins: September 18, 2024 - Meet & Greet, first Mentor/mentee meeting

**How to apply:**

Fill out this [application](#) by July 31, 2024. Application consists of short questions and basic information. Questions? Reach out to: [coflan@flipnational.org](mailto:coflan@flipnational.org)