



**Bowhay Institute for
Legislative Leadership Development**
MIDWESTERN LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE



HUMPHREY SCHOOL
OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



26th Annual

BOWHAY INSTITUTE for LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
OCTOBER 1-5, 2021 | MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Application deadline: May 14, 2021



Illinois | Indiana | Iowa | Kansas | Michigan | Minnesota | Nebraska | North Dakota | Ohio | Saskatchewan | South Dakota | Wisconsin
Affiliate Members: Alberta | Manitoba | Ontario

Presented by

The Council of State Governments | Midwestern Legislative Conference

in partnership with

University of Minnesota Humphrey School of Public Affairs
Center for the Study of Politics and Governance

"BILLD is a fantastic opportunity to grow and share."

*Rep. Catherine Ingram, Ohio
Class of 2018*



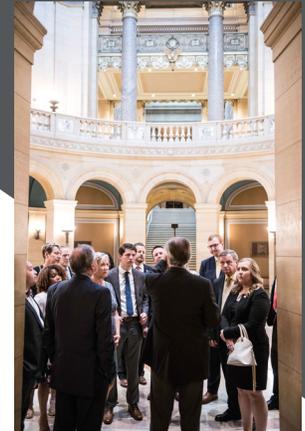
"This program will cause you to think, reflect, and become not only a better legislator, but a better person."

*Sen. Suzanne Geist, Nebraska
Class of 2018*



"You will leave better informed and better prepared to make a true impact on your chamber, your legislative body, and your community."

*Sen. Elgie Sims Jr., Illinois
Class of 2014*



WHY APPLY FOR A BILLD FELLOWSHIP?

DEVELOP LEADERSHIP SKILLS BILLD is the only leadership institute designed exclusively for Midwestern legislators. Through a series of interactive workshops, the Bowhay Institute provides training to develop and sharpen the skills you need to be a more effective legislative leader.

IMPROVE UNDERSTANDING OF KEY REGIONAL PUBLIC POLICIES By focusing on the most important issues that state policymakers face today, scholars from the University of Minnesota and outside experts provide a context for you to effectively analyze policies and programs, evaluate information that you receive, and communicate successfully with constituents and colleagues.

NETWORK WITH THE BEST AND BRIGHTEST As a BILLD Fellow, you will be joined by some of the most promising new legislators from across the region. You will have the chance to share your knowledge, learn from one another's experiences, and forge relationships that will last long beyond your time in Minneapolis.



WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Midwestern legislators in their first four years of legislative service are eligible to apply. Fellowships are awarded based on an applicant's ability to demonstrate leadership potential, dedication to public service, and commitment to the legislative process and institution. Through a competitive application process, fellowships are awarded annually to Midwestern lawmakers from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Saskatchewan, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

"BILLD is an opportunity for making meaningful connections and to exchange best practices to support your legislature."

*Rep. Ruth Richardson, Minnesota
Class of 2019*

"The best opportunity you will ever have to meet peers from other states and gain valuable insights into better serving the public."

*Sen. Brad Bekkedahl, North Dakota
Class of 2017*

"It's a must-do program for any new legislator wanting a better understanding of how to navigate complex systems and become a better legislator."

*Sen. Erin Houchin, Indiana
Class of 2018*



HOW TO APPLY FOR A BILLD FELLOWSHIP

In addition to the application form contained in this packet, each applicant must submit two letters of recommendation, a current résumé, and a written essay. Please follow the guidelines in the “Application Components” section when completing and submitting the required materials.

All application materials must be received by CSG Midwest no later than **May 14, 2021**. Late and/or incomplete applications will not be considered. You will receive confirmation of the receipt of your application materials via email.

Visit csgmidwest.org to apply online.

ABOUT THE FELLOWSHIP

- Midwestern legislators are awarded Fellowships through a competitive, nonpartisan process by the BILLD Steering Committee – a bipartisan group of legislators from each state in the region.
- Each BILLD Fellowship covers the cost of tuition, lodging, and meals.
- CSG Midwest offers financial assistance for travel to and from Minneapolis. All Fellows will be eligible for a stipend that covers a portion of their travel costs.
- Attendance at BILLD is limited to BILLD Fellows, BILLD staff, and invited guests.
- Applicants will be notified of the Steering Committee’s decisions in mid-May.
- In order to maintain the integrity of the program, and as a professional courtesy to colleagues, individuals awarded Fellowships must confirm their attendance for the entire BILLD program. BILLD Fellows are expected to arrive by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, October 1, and depart on the morning of Wednesday, October 6. The BILLD Steering Committee reserves the right to withdraw the Fellowship of any participant unable to commit to being present for the entire program.

LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION?

Visit the CSG Midwest website (csgmidwest.org) for more information about the Bowhay Institute, including lists of past Fellows and a sample agenda.

Laura A. Tomaka | BILLD Program Manager | tel 630.925.1922 | ltomaka@csg.org

“It is more than just a conference. It’s a program where you grow and that will make you challenge yourself.”

*Rep. Tory Marie Arnberger, Kansas
Class of 2019*

“An enriching, must-do experience for any new legislator.”

*Sen. Don Harmon, Illinois
Class of 2005*

“One of the best professional development and personal improvement leadership workshops you can find.”

*Rep. Sara Cambensy, Michigan
Class of 2018*



APPLICATION COMPONENTS

Completed BILLD applications must be received by CSG Midwest no later than May 14.

Please make sure that you have submitted each of the following components of your application. Late and/or incomplete applications will not be considered. You will receive confirmation of the receipt of your application materials via email message.

(1) APPLICATION FORM Complete the application form contained in this packet or apply online at csgmidwest.org.

(2) WRITTEN ESSAY Describe your qualifications for receiving a BILLD Fellowship by answering the following questions. Your essay must be limited to two typed pages.

- a. What is the policy area of greatest interest to you, and what role do you play or expect to play in addressing it?
- b. What is your most significant legislative accomplishment or skill that demonstrates your ability as a legislator?
- c. What is your most significant personal or professional accomplishment outside the legislative arena that demonstrates your commitment to public service?
- d. There are a number of ways to exercise leadership. How would you describe your personal leadership style, and how do you effectively demonstrate leadership in the legislature?

(3) CURRENT RÉSUMÉ Your résumé must be limited to two typed pages and include the following information, as applicable. Please use bullet points rather than paragraph format.

- Legislative background (first elected/appointed; number of years of legislative service)
- Legislative committees on which you currently serve
- Current and/or previous leadership roles in the legislature
- Prior elected office(s)
- Community service/volunteer activities
- Occupational and educational background

(4) TWO LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Submit two personalized letters of recommendation, written by state legislative colleagues and/or graduates of the Bowhay Institute (please note that members of the BILLD Steering Committee are not permitted to write letters of recommendation). Do not submit more than the two required letters of recommendation, as only two letters will be considered by the Steering Committee.





APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name _____

Representative Senator

Month and year first elected/appointed to state legislature* _____

* List the month and year that the general election was held or that the appointment was made. Indicate if you were elected in a special election.

Elected Appointed

Preferred mailing address _____

Home address (if different) _____

Capitol phone _____ Business phone _____

Cell phone _____ Home phone _____

Email address _____

Alternate/staff email address _____

APPLICATION CHECKLIST: DUE MAY 14 Late and/or incomplete applications will not be considered

To be considered for a BILLD Fellowship, make sure your application includes the following materials. See the "Application Components" section for complete details and instructions.

- Application form
- Written essay
- Résumé/biographical information
- Two letters of recommendation (please list names and titles)

(1) _____

(2) _____

HOW TO APPLY

MAIL

Laura A. Tomaka
BILLD/CSG Midwest
701 East 22nd Street, Suite 110
Lombard, Illinois 60148

ONLINE csgmidwest.org/billd

EMAIL billd@csg.org

THE BOWHAY INSTITUTE

In October, 39 legislators from the Midwest will gather in Minneapolis, Minnesota, for the 26th annual Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development (BILLD). This select group of lawmakers will receive training to enhance their leadership skills and will analyze some of the most significant policy issues that states face today. Participation in the Bowhay Institute is a unique opportunity to learn with the best and brightest new legislators from across the region.

The Midwestern Legislative Conference of The Council of State Governments is pleased to invite you to apply for a 2021 BILLD Fellowship. By applying, you will have the chance to join the ranks of more than 875 regional legislators who have successfully completed this program since 1995. If you strive to be an effective leader, an informed decision maker, and an astute policy analyst, BILLD is the program for you.

CSG MIDWEST

For more than 80 years, The Council of State Governments, the nation's only nonpartisan association for all three branches of state government, has served officials in all 50 states and the U.S. territories. CSG is a regionally based national organization that promotes excellence in state government. CSG fosters the interstate exchange of information and ideas to help state officials advance public policy, and it offers unparalleled regional, national, and international opportunities for leadership development, collaboration, and interstate problem-solving.

CSG Midwest focuses on serving legislators and other state officials from the nation's heartland. Through our publications, online resources, networking opportunities, and leadership training, we provide policymakers with the tools they need to be effective state leaders.

THE HUMPHREY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Humphrey School of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota ranks among the country's top 10 professional public policy and planning schools. The school is noted for equipping students to play key roles in public life at the local, state, national, and global levels and offers six distinctive master's degrees, a doctoral degree, and five certificate programs. The school's Center for the Study of Politics and Governance works across party lines to develop practical information and solutions to pressing political and policy challenges. The center strives to increase public understanding of politics through research relevant to policymakers, and by serving as a resource to the media and citizens on important policy issues. It convenes public events with policymakers as well as experts on American politics and public policy.



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MIDWESTERN LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE | THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS
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TEL 630.925.1922 | FAX 630.925.1930 | BILLD@CSG.ORG | CSGMIDWEST.ORG