

Applications due: 2 October 2023

Program duration: April 2024 through September 2025

Advocacy Fellows Program

AVAC's Advocacy Fellows Program launched in 2009. The program supports emerging and mid-career advocates to design and implement advocacy projects focused on HIV prevention in their countries and communities. The focus has since been expanded to broader health issues, including:

- Prevention of HIV, tuberculosis, COVID-19, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), other pandemics;
- Sexual and reproductive health (SRH);
- Pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response (PPPR); and
- Health equity and rights.

Advocacy Fellows carry out their 18-month advocacy projects under the auspices of a Host Organization in their country. AVAC provides technical and financial support—both salary and budget—to Fellows via the Host Organization. Fellows cannot be employed elsewhere for the duration of the Fellows Program.

The primary goal of the Fellows Program is to expand and strengthen the capacity of civil society advocates and organizations to respond to HIV and other epidemics, such as TB and COVID-19, and to accelerate the rollout of new, effective prevention interventions. Fellows live and work in countries with high HIV burdens, primarily in eastern and southern Africa. Creating a supportive environment for global health depends on advocacy to address biomedical, structural, social and behavioral drivers of HIV and other epidemics.

Eligible applicants

Applicants must be emerging or mid-career community leaders and advocates involved or interested in advocacy for prevention of HIV, other pandemics, PPPR and/or sexual reproductive health, with a particular focus on biomedical interventions. See examples <http://avac.org/prevention-options/>.

Advocacy campaigns and projects

Priority will be given to projects in low- and middle-income countries where HIV prevention research and implementation is planned or ongoing, looking at new PrEP formulations and compounds, multi-purpose prevention technologies, antibodies, vaccines or cure research—and/or where there is a need for the delivery or scale-up of proven HIV biomedical interventions. Projects integrating structural change are encouraged, provided there is a clear linkage between the proposed focus and the broader HIV prevention landscape. Projects integrating other pandemics, SRH and PPPR advocacy are also encouraged

Projects not eligible

Projects not eligible include service delivery, awareness raising, and academic projects, such as thesis research, formal research protocols or other research that requires regulatory approval, among others.

Host Organizations

The Host Organization receives financial support to provide a physical workspace for the Advocacy Fellow, the financial infrastructure for administering the Advocacy Fellow's grant, and most critically, provides a Host Supervisor to support the Fellow's activities. The Host Organization will be expected to submit information and background documents as part of the application process.

Strong candidates who do not have a Host Organization will be considered on a case-by-case basis. See the [list](#) of current and previous Host Organizations.

Benefits and role of Host Organizations and Supervisors

The Host Supervisor is expected to use a small percentage of their time to oversee the Fellow, guide their work, ensure the project is integrated into the Host Organization's activities and ensure others in the organization are kept abreast of the Fellow's project.

The Host Supervisor and the Host Organization's representatives will have the opportunity to develop their health-advocacy knowledge and skills and expand their network in exchange for hosting and supervision of the Fellow. The organization receives financial support to administer the grant and compensation towards supervision efforts.

For Fellow and Host application requirements: [Advocacy Fellows Information Packet](#)

To fill out and submit an application: [Advocacy Fellows Application Form](#)

To read about current Fellows: [The Advocacy Fellows Homepage](#)

About AVAC

AVAC is an international non-profit organization that provides an independent voice and leverages global partnerships to accelerate ethical development and equitable delivery of effective HIV prevention options, as part of a comprehensive and integrated pathway to global health equity. Follow AVAC on Twitter @HIVpxresearch; find more at www.avac.org and www.prepwatch.org.