

# Rangel and Pickering Graduate Fellowships Seek Individuals Interested in International Economics



The Charles B. Rangel and Thomas R. Pickering International Fellowship Programs are seeking individuals interested in pursuing careers as Economic Officers in the Foreign Service of the U.S. Department of State. Economic Officers build and maintain positive economic relations between the U.S. and other countries, as well as promote cooperation and positive change in areas such as environment, energy, and health. They influence and implement economic policy as they help unravel the complexities of a global economy. These positions are rewarding opportunities to support the creation of U.S. jobs, promote prosperity for the United States and other countries, work with U.S. businesses abroad, and promote environmental protection and energy cooperation. The Rangel and Pickering Fellowships help support those pursuing this career track through funding up to \$42,000 per year for two years to obtain graduate degrees in areas like Public Policy, Economics, Business Administration, International Affairs or other areas related to the work of the Foreign Service. The Fellowships offer mentoring and professional skills development, paid domestic and overseas internships, and entry into the Foreign Service for those who successfully complete the program. Learn more about the fellowships at [www.rangelprogram.org](http://www.rangelprogram.org) and about economic work below and at <https://careers.state.gov>.

**Economic Officers** are action officers who work with domestic and foreign officials, businesses, multilateral organizations and civil society to promote economic growth, prosperity, and environmental protection. They support international trade negotiations, engage on global financial issues, support U.S. businesses and U.S. job creation, interpret economic conditions and trends, work to find solutions to address environmental problems and promote cooperation on energy, health, transportation, labor, science and technology. They utilize strong analytical skills, strategic vision, an ability to work with interlocutors in government and non-government areas, a knowledge of business, and an ability to bridge differences and solve problems to find solutions that promote U.S. and global prosperity, employment, and quality of life. Following is an overview of a potential economic career track:

## Entry Level

- Work overseas, hone foreign language capabilities, strengthen your analytical and interpersonal skills, and learn how to achieve results in an international, multicultural environment.
- Work in an economic section of a U.S. embassy or consulate on issues such as trade, investment transportation, intellectual property rights, and/or finance under the direction of an experienced officer.
- Develop a network of contacts in the host government and local business community to promote positive change and to keep informed on local developments.
- Prepare economic analyses and recommend strategies for implementation of U.S. policies.
- At a small post, supervise one or two local employees who work on economic issues.

## Mid-Level

- Lead a management section in a medium-size embassy or consulate or supervise general services, human resources or other major unit at a large embassy
- Develop and manage multi-million-dollar budgets, lease and maintain government-owned and leased residences and office buildings and provide the logistical platform to support dozens of high-level visits
- Negotiate with host government authorities over diplomatic privileges and immunities, applications of tax reciprocity laws and family member employment.
- Take assignments in non-management positions such as promoting human rights or advancing U.S. trade

## Senior Level

- Have potential to rise to the highest levels, including an Ambassador, Deputy Chief of Mission, or a Principal Officer at a large consulate, or a Management Counselor at a large post.
- Serving in Washington, D.C., assume high-level positions including Office Director, Executive Director, or Deputy Assistant Secretary, directing resources to support the work of posts throughout a region, managing the Department's global logistics or building programs, coordinating recruitment, training, or assignments of personnel, or leading non-management missions such as foreign policy coordination.

**Below are examples of successful economic officers who rose to senior levels and made important contributions to U.S. and global economic priorities.**



**Ambassador Cynthia Akuetteh (ret)** U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Gabon and the Democratic of Sao Tome and Principe; Deputy Assistant Secretary for African Affairs; Director of the Office of Europe, Middle East and Africa in the State Department's Bureau of Energy Resources; Director of the Office of Central African Affairs; Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassies in Cote d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso; Deputy Director of the Africa Bureau's Economic Policy Staff; Deputy Division Chief in the Office of Bilateral Trade Affairs; International Economist in the Office of Economic Sanctions, senior Venezuela Desk Officer; International Economist in the Office of Energy Policy; detailee to the Office of the United States Trade Representative; overseas tours including Ottawa, Canada; Niamey, Niger and Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania.



**Ambassador Aurelia Brazeal**, U.S. Ambassador to Ethiopia, U.S. Ambassador to Kenya; U.S. Ambassador to The Federated States of Micronesia; Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and the Pacific; first Dean of the Leadership and Management School at the Foreign Service Institute; Dean of the Senior Seminar; Minister-Counselor for Economics at the U.S. Embassy in Japan; Deputy Director for Economics in the State Department Japan office; a detail to the U.S. Treasury Department; tours in the Economic Bureau and the State Department Secretariat. Undergraduate degree from Spelman College; graduate degree from Columbia University.



**Julie Chung**, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State in the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs; Director for Japan in the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs; Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for East Asian and Pacific Affairs; Deputy Chief of Mission in Cambodia; Economic Counselor in Thailand; Deputy Political Counselor in Colombia; Chief of Staff in U.S. Embassy Baghdad; other positions working on North Korea in the Office of Korean Affairs; in Consulate General Guangzhou, in U.S. Embassy Tokyo, and in U.S. Embassy Hanoi. A proud Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowship alumna.



**Jarahn Hillsman**, Deputy Chief of Mission, U.S. Embassy in Bolivia; Deputy Chief of Mission, U.S. Embassy in Equatorial Guinea; Deputy Political Chief in U.S. Embassy in Honduras; Economic-Commercial Officer in the Office of Multilateral Trade Affairs; Head of the Economic Unit in the Office of Cuban Affairs; BA in Urban Planning from California State University Northridge; Master of International Affairs from Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs. A proud Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowship alumnus.