

**William H. Gates Sr. Fellow in Innovation and Entrepreneurship  
at the Technology Alliance**

The Technology Alliance ([www.technology-alliance.com](http://www.technology-alliance.com)), a highly-respected, statewide organization of technology leaders, is accepting applications for its William H. Gates Sr. Fellow in Innovation and Entrepreneurship. The Fellowship is available for up to the full academic year 2020–21, requiring ~15 hours/week of work; the initial commitment from both the Technology Alliance and the Fellow will be for the fall quarter. Based on the organization’s needs and Fellow’s performance and interest, the Fellowship may be extended for the winter and spring quarters. At this time the work will take place entirely online.

The Technology Alliance (TA) has spent more than 20 years supporting Washington’s innovation economy through events, program incubation, and research all focused on shoring up three pillars of innovation—a strong education system, a robust climate for entrepreneurship, and significant investment in R&D. The TA represents companies and organizations that span Washington’s diverse economy—aerospace, energy, IT, and life sciences—and position R&D as core to their growth and impact model.

The TA’s work has included building a continuum of support for entrepreneurs—from a speakers’ series that daylights emergent research (Discovery Series), to a training “bootcamp” for very early stage concepts poised for commercialization (Innovation Showcase), to launching the largest and most active angel investing group in the region (Alliance of Angels). As the Technology Alliance looks forward to its next five years, it is committed to building on this history of both reporting on the state’s innovation economy and demonstrating creative approaches to strengthening it.

This Fellowship provides an opportunity for an exceptional graduate student from the University of Washington to learn about the drivers of Washington’s innovation economy—from the talent pipeline (K-12 education, degrees, entrepreneurs), to research capacity in universities, to the impact that results when R&D is commercialized for public good. At the start of the Fellowship, the Fellow and the Technology Alliance’s CEO will develop learning objectives and goals that relate to the professional goals of the student’s academic coursework.

The Fellowship is open to full-time MBAs, evening MBAs who have completed their core requirements, or Technology Entrepreneurship Certificate (TEC) students who have taken at least two core classes (8 credits) of entrepreneurship. Interested students from other UW graduate schools may also apply. This Fellowship is provided through an endowment from William H. Gates Sr. to the UW Foster School of Business, and stipend amount and terms are awarded by the Director of the Buerk Center for Entrepreneurship in consultation with the CEO of the Technology Alliance.

#### **FELLOWSHIP DESCRIPTION**

We have learned over the past decade that there is great promise in online instruction. For students with non-traditional schedules, learning styles, or other factors, online school has been a blessing. The recent pandemic-related school closures exposed the perils as well - particularly when instruction needs to be moved suddenly from an in-person model to remote instruction. Access to hardware and broadband connections were just the beginning. Password management, privacy issues, teacher training, and students with special needs also posed challenges.



It's clear that this is not the last time that schools will face this issue. Future pandemics, natural disasters, even extended closures due to increased snowfall will continue to challenge our schools, either individual buildings, entire districts, or statewide.

Join the Technology Alliance for a unique opportunity to staff a task force which will come up with policy and other recommendations for how schools can more seamlessly transition from in-person instruction to remote learning in the future. The task force will be made up of members of the state legislature as well as leaders from the education and business communities.

You'll be working directly with the founder of the Technology Alliance who successfully shepherded Governor Locke's Digital Learning task force to become the Digital Learning Commons and Bio21 to the Life Science Discovery Fund. This is an amazing opportunity to use and extend your expertise in analytics, policy, and innovation.

In addition to excellent written and verbal communication skills, this position requires someone with strong analytic skills and slide presentation skills. Experience in taking minutes, working with large (15-20 person) teams, and familiarity with Washington State K-12 policy issues is desired but not required.

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## QUALIFICATIONS

Candidate must be highly motivated, well organized, and possess excellent communication (both writing and verbal) and analytical skills. **Writing skills are especially important in this role and a writing assessment will be given as part of the interview process.** Great data analytic and storytelling skills (with numbers, pictures and words) is also critical to this role. Proficiency with MS Office Suite is expected.

During the Fellowship the Fellow will maintain adequate academic progress as defined by the University of Washington.

The TA is a very small organization so candidates must be nimble and able to both participate in and provide /leadership across a variety of areas, with a sense of humor and congeniality.

Interested candidates should **submit a résumé and cover letter**, expressing interest and explaining relevant experience and related career goals. Stipend will be ~\$2,000 per month for ~15 hours/week over about nine months, tentative start date for fall quarter 2020. Note that for fall quarter the work will take place entirely online; status will be revised in January as the COVID situation develops.

Please apply to [info@technology-alliance.com](mailto:info@technology-alliance.com); add CC [uwbuerk@uw.edu](mailto:uwbuerk@uw.edu).