

2026 -2027 Fellowship: Vision Change Win Security School Application

About you

1. What is your name and contact information? *

First Name

Last Name

Please share how to pronounce your first name (or the english phonetic spelling) (ie: "Sabrina" = Suh - BREE - Nuh)

What are your pronouns? (ie, they, she, hir, he, your name, etc)

Current Organization

Role

Home Street Address

Apt/Suite/Office

City

State

Zip

Country

Email Address

Signal handle

Phone
number

2. What year(s) did you attend and graduate from Security School? *

- ☐ I graduated from the 2026 cohort
- ☐ I graduated from the 2024-2025 cohort
- ☐ I graduated from the 2023-2024 cohort
- ☐ I graduated from the 2022-2023 cohort
- ☐ I graduated from the 2021-2022 cohort
- ☐ I graduated from the 2020-2021 cohort

3. What US region do you live in? *

- ☐ Midwest US
- ☐ Southwest US
- ☐ Northwest US
- ☐ Northeast US
- ☐ Southeast US
- ☐ I live outside the continental US

4. What time zone are you in? *

- ☐ Hawaii Standard Time
- ☐ Pacific Daylight Time
- ☐ Mountain Standard Time
- ☐ Mountain Daylight Time
- ☐ Central Daylight Time
- ☐ Eastern Daylight Time
- ☐ My time zone is not listed (please specify)

*

5. What is your Race(s) and/or Ethnicity?

*Vision Change Win is committed to race and gender equity and creating a diverse learning community. All personal information is kept strictly confidential. Demographic information is not required.

- ☐ Black, or African Descent
- ☐ Latinx
- ☐ Native, American Indian or Alaska Native
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- ☐ Asian or Asian American
- ☐ Arab/Arab American/Middle Eastern
- ☐ Mixed Race
- ☐ White
- ☐ My Race is not listed above (please specify)

 *

6. What is your Gender(s)?

*Vision Change Win is committed to race and gender equity and creating a diverse learning community. All personal information is kept strictly confidential. Demographic information is not required.

- ☐ Genderqueer
- ☐ Trans Woman
- ☐ Gender Non-Conforming
- ☐ Cis Woman
- ☐ Trans Man
- ☐ Two-Spirit
- ☐ Cis Man
- ☐ Genderfluid
- ☐ Intersex
- ☐ My Gender is not listed above (please specify)

*

7. What is your Sexual Orientation?

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- ☐ Queer
- ☐ Bisexual
- ☐ Heterosexual
- ☐ Gay
- ☐ Lesbian
- ☐ Two-Spirit
- ☐ Asexual
- ☐ My Sexual Orientation is not listed above (please specify)

*

8. What access needs do you have in order to fully participate in virtual trainings?

- ☐ Closed Captioning
- ☐ Spanish Interpretation
- ☐ Font size on presentations above 30pt
- ☐ I have an access need that is not listed above

*

9. Do you have a minimum 2 years* experience practicing community safety within an organization?

Community safety experience may include:

- Practicing or training others in verbal de-escalation or bystander intervention
- Practicing or training others in physical de-escalation,
- Developing or participating in an organizational safety plan,
- Being a part of safety team or marshalling team or an event, protest, or polling location,
- Practicing or training others in digital security practices (ie doxing prevention, secure file sharing, password management, etc),
- Safety planning for canvassers or an outreach team

Please share groups you have worked with and any relevant safety support you've offered (ie safety practices, structures, or trainings)

*If you're unsure whether you meet this 2 year requirement please expand further on your community safety experience. Tell us why you feel you'd make a good community safety trainer.

*



10. Do you have a minimum 2 years experience facilitating trainings or meetings for movement groups? (This includes any virtual or in person skill-based training)

Please share groups you have worked with and any relevant trainings, meetings, or groups you've facilitated *

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for the respondent to provide details about their experience with movement groups and trainings.

11. Describe how you practice or build upon your current community safety practices. *

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for the respondent to describe their current community safety practices and how they build upon them.

About you and your group

12. What is your role in your current group? *

- ☐ Member Leader
- ☐ Program/Organizing Staff
- ☐ Supervising/Senior Staff
- ☐ Board Member
- ☐ Communications Staff
- ☐ Administrative Staff/Finance/Operations
- ☐ Other - Write In (Required)

*

13. Please describe your role within your current group. What are your primary responsibilities? How long have you held this role? Have you played any other roles within your group? *

14. How long have you been a part of your current group?

(Fellowship applicants must have at least six months with their current organization in order to be considered) *

- ☐ 6 Months-1 Year
- ☐ 1 Year-3 Years
- ☐ 3 Years-5 Years
- ☐ 5 Years-10 Years
- ☐ 10+ Years

15. Are you still representing the same group you represented when you graduated from security school? *

- ☐ Yes, the group I repped in security school is also the group I currently rep
- ☐ No, I have since changed groups and am now repping a new group
(Please share the name of the group you originally repped in security school)

 *

16. Are you/is your group currently being sponsored by a funder to attend the fellowship? If yes, please specify

(Please note, this question refers to a foundation or philanthropic institution who has agreed to pay tuition on behalf of your organization) *

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes (If yes, please specify the foundation)

17. Who is the point person for payment? (Please share name and email) *

Payment point person name

Payment point person
email

Payment point person
phone

Why Security School?

18. Why do you want to be a Security School Fellow? What do you hope to gain from participating in this intermediate/ advanced training program?

Please share your answer in a short video (under one minute), powerpoint (under ten slides), dance (under one minute), song (under one minute), drawing, voicenote (under one minute), etc. Get creative! *

Browse...

19. What are your movement leadership goals in the next 5-10 years? What skills are you building now to reach these goals? *

20. The Security School Fellowship offers each Fellow the opportunity to chose a community safety specialty and train within that specialty. While we cannot guarantee that all Fellows will be matched with their first choice specialty, we strive to ensure that Fellows are able to deepen their learning in one of their desired areas.

Please rank the following specialties in order of preference, with your first choice listed first, second choice second, etc. *

Drag items from the left-hand list into the right-hand list to order them.

Physical de-escalation

Verbal de-escalation

Digital security

Security teams (in-person & virtual)

Safety planning

Organizational safety

Transformative justice

21. In alignment with Security Culture, Vision Change Win vets all incoming potential community safety trainers. Please share two references:

*

	Personal reference: Someone who has known you for 2+ years and can attest to your character	Progressive movement group / Organizing reference: Someone who has known you for 2+ years and can attest to your commitment to progressive movement safety
First and last name		
Email		
Phone		

Commitments

22. The Security School Fellowship is a rigorous program which asks participants to increase their attention, capacity, and commitment to community safety work. The expectations for fellows are higher than that of beginner security school cohort participants.

Fellows should plan to complete at least Twenty-five (25) hours of in-session work, and at least Thirty (35) hours of out of session work.

Below are the Security School Fellow Commitments:

- Practice security culture within organizational and movement spaces, in personal relationships, and professional relationships. This includes practicing confidentiality, generative conflict, and giving and receiving grounded feedback.
- Attend at least 75% of training sessions (participants who miss more than four unexcused sessions will not graduate from the program and may be asked to leave the program without tuition reimbursement or refund)
- Complete Twenty (20) hours of community safety practice within a chosen community safety specialty (practice hours may include: physical de-escalation training, co-facilitation, shadowing practitioners, rapid response support, safety planning support, etc)
- Complete an end of cohort community safety project and presentation

Upon graduating from the program, fellows will have the opportunity to support, co-facilitate, or shadow VCW community safety programs. This work will be compensated through a fellowship stipend rate.

If accepted into the fellowship, will you commit to completing all of these program commitments? *

☐ Yes

23. In order to protect participants and trainers, Vision Change Win asks that all participants maintain confidentiality throughout the course of the training. This means refraining from sharing information learned (ie: security concerns, internal conflict, safety practices) within training sessions about other organizations outside of this year's cohort. *

☐ I can practice confidentiality

24. VCW requires that all Security School Fellows are present for at least 75% of sessions. Fellows who are absent from more than 4 (four) sessions without notice (barring extenuating circumstances, emergencies, or illness) may be asked to leave the program and may not be eligible for a refund.

This means:

- Communicating to the Security School coordinator about planned absences **at least 1 week prior to sessions**
- Communicating to the Security School coordinator about unplanned absences within a reasonable timeframe
- Reaching out to the Security School coordinator pre-emptively if capacity changes

The 2026-2027 training dates are as follows (All sessions are 4 - 7pm EST):

- November: Wed, 11/4 | Thurs, 11/5
- December: Tues, 12/1 | Wed, 12/2 | Thurs, 12/3
- January: Tues, 1/12 | Wed, 1/13 | Thurs, 1/14
- February: Tues, 2/2 | Wed, 2/3 | Thurs, 2/4
- March: Tues, 3/2 | Wed, 3/3 | Thurs, 3/4 (optional)

Can you commit to attend at least 75%* of sessions (barring extenuating circumstances, emergencies, or illness) ?

*

☐ Yes, I commit to this

25. Vision Change Win believes in the power of generative conflict to transform movement work and push our collective political education forward. We encourage constructive, respectful, political debate within the training for trainers.

We do not, however, tolerate oppressive or violent behavior including racism, sexism, transphobia, xenophobia, classism, ableism, homophobia, or other forms of harm.

Can you help us to uphold a safe learning environment by committing to refraining from oppressing or violent behavior and respectfully interrupting these behaviors if they show up? *

- ☐ Yes, I can commit to upholding a safe learning environment by committing to refraining from oppressing or violent behavior and respectfully interrupting these behaviors if they show up

26. Vision Change Win comes from a decades-long legacy of community based practitioners. We are founded on and practice the following Community Safety Values:

Stay ready, get ready: We believe that preparation and dedicated safety planning makes it more likely that we have what we need to address threats. When possible, plan ahead and make safety work a part of programmatic planning. Even when we need to move quickly, we'll have preparation from past elections to build from.

Local Leadership: We believe on the ground, local leadership is most knowledgeable about threats to election safety. When offering support in communities we're not from or don't live in we follow the lead from local folks most directly impacted. Folks may come in from other places, local leadership should be recognized as top of chain of command. Unity of command should be clear- this means everyone knows who to take direction from and directions across teams do not contradict.

BIPOC legacy: We believe that Black, Indigenous, People of Color have been creating safety for ourselves for decades. Some of the practices in toolkit are over 30 years old- passed down through oral tradition from Black, Indigenous people of color.

Rooted in abolitionist values and movements with histories resisting state violence: We see building power as an abolitionist strategy and people build power through electoral work, through policy work, and through community work that's outside the state. We know the US is embedded with oppressive institutions and that we can agree that we need to build the power of oppressed communities to self govern outside of oppressive institutions. We support progressive movement groups who do not believe in abolition, but ask that all of our community safety skills in our trainings are practices outside of the state (any form of law enforcement including local police, FBI, Homeland security, ICE, etc)

Disability Justice Informed: We believe this work is not about embodying or replicating the state, this practice challenges misogynistic performances of safety. We do not exclude disabled community members or group leaders from our safety plans or safety teams. We reject the ableist myth that security work should be held by only the able bodied. We make security accessible, for all bodies, and adaptive to changing conditions.

Women and Femme leadership: We lift up the leadership, expertise, and specialized skills that women and femmes bring to safety work. We reject sexist, misogynistic, and transphobic practices and behaviors within our safety teams and practices. Those who experience gender based violence are experts in addressing it, we learn from the brilliance of these experts to address and intervene in gender based violence and all forms of harm.

No shortcuts to on the ground experience: We believe that community safety is deep work which takes time to learn, and that practice is the only way to gain and improve community safety skills. We believe in rigorous training and that community safety trainers should not only be familiar with community safety curriculum but also be able to answer tough community safety questions based on lived experiences.

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Signature of

Tuition, Solidarity Scholarship, and Payment Plan Application

27. What Tier is your organization applying for?

- Tier 1: Organizational Budget \$5 Million and above | \$10,000.00 tuition for 1-5 representatives
- Tier 2: Organizational Budget \$1 Million - \$5 Million | \$6,000.00 tuition for 1-5 representatives
- Tier 3: Organizational Budget \$500,000- \$1 Million | \$2,000.00 tuition for 1-5 representatives
- Tier 4: Organizational Budget under \$500,000 | \$1,000 for 1-5 representatives

Solidarity Scholarships are available for Tier 3 and Tier 4 organizations. Payment Plans are available for all Tiers. Information on Solidarity Scholarships and payment plans can be found in this application.

Questions? safety@visionchangewin.org for more information *

- ☐ Tier 1: Organizational Budget \$5 Million and above
- ☐ Tier 2: Organizational Budget \$1 Million - \$5 Million
- ☐ Tier 3: Organizational Budget \$500,000- \$1 Million
- ☐ Tier 4: Organizational Budget under \$500,000

28. VCW usually offers 75% and 50% discounted tuition scholarships, with some exceptions. If you are representing an organization with a budget under \$1 Million, please share what you are able to pay for tuition. This will be taken under consideration when awarding scholarships.

29. Are you applying for a solidarity scholarship?

Solidarity Scholarships are available for Tier 3 and Tier 4 organizations. Payment Plans are available for all Tiers. Information on Solidarity Scholarships and payment plans can be found in this application.

Questions? safety@visionchangewin.org for more information *

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes

30. Participants may apply for a Payment Plan which splits payment evenly into two payments due on: November 30, 2026 and January 25, 2027.

Are you applying for a payment plan? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No