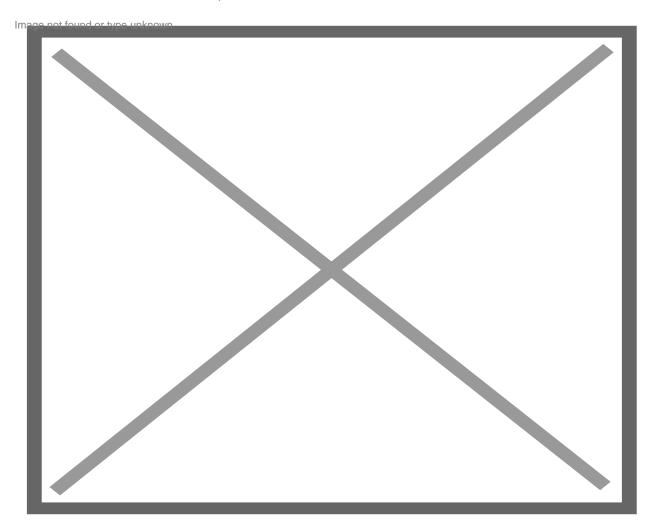
First Cohort of GVI Fellows Completes Program; Majority Offered Jobs in Government Agencies

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First cohort of GVI fellows pose for a picture with OMB Director Jenifer O'Neal. By. GOV'T HOUSE

The first batch of GVI Financial Fellows has successfully completed their 2-year program, and are now ready for the world of work.

Office of Management & Budget Director Jenifer O'Neal announced the matriculation of the first cohort of GVI Fellows, who spent the last two years working within some of the government's most critical agencies.

Of the 12 college graduates who were <u>initially accepted</u> into the program in 2021, seven successfully completed stints working in the Bureau of Internal Revenue, the Office of

Management and Budget, the Department of Finance, and the Office of Disaster Recovery. The 6-month rotations through each department exposed the fellows to a range of assignments, on-the-job training, and helped them build a professional network of highly-skilled colleagues. According to an announcement from Government House, "the Fellows ended the program equipped with enhanced knowledge and skills to make a difference in the government and impact their community."

During a recent award ceremony, the Fellows shared their capstone project with Governor Albert Bryan Jr., - a report highlighting areas for process improvement within the government. The announcement says that the cohort's work inside their assigned agencies provided them with the insight needed to address issues and identify opportunities for change. Governor Bryan noted that the GVI Fellows program was part of the administration's legacy of "connecting the dots" for young people, starting from childhood. He described a "pipeline" starting with Head Start, through the GVI Fellows program for a first government job, to owning a home for the first time through the VI Slice Program, which is still struggling to get off the ground.

Following the cohort's completion in late September, government agencies were given the opportunity to make hires from the pool of young people who now possess a uniquely suited skillset that qualifies them for government work. "I am pleased to report that the majority of the first cohort have received and accepted offers for full-time positions," said Ms. O'Neal. Those who have accepted offers, she said, are "well on their way to begin careers within agencies across the central government."

A third cohort of Fellows was inducted earlier this year.

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