



BUSINESS ETHICS FORUM FELLOWS PROGRAM - 2026

Invitation to Apply to Inaugural / Pilot Program

The Business Ethics Forum (BEF) has operated as a peer group of senior executives and the professionals who advise them for 25 years. The BEF is now launching the Fellows program. Participants in this selective program will be enabled to grow in personal virtue and professional leadership. This inaugural cohort will also help the BEF shape the BEF Fellows program for future generations of ethical leaders. Together, we will lay the foundation for corporate governance and commercial strategy to be informed by the dignity of the human person and how they work together to flourish.

Only people create value. Effective commercial strategy and corporate governance is enabled by how the human person who flourishes in role, whether CEO or line worker. The BEF provides quarterly case study discussions and speakers curated to develop an understanding of how a framework based on the dignity of the human person enable individuals and organizations to excel.

The Fellows program is selective and a non-trivial commitment. The BEF will provide deep and practical content on these foundational concepts and personal. Participants need to be able to commit to attending four 1.5 day workshops in Houston, self-study curriculum and a \$1,500 fee to cover the cost of the self-study content and workshops. This is your invitation to apply for the 2026 inaugural BEF Fellows program.

The Business Ethics Forum Fellows Program

Each calendar year, the BEF will select a new Fellows cohort to participate in what is expected to be a three-year program. Participants become BEF Fellows by fully participating in the workshop program over the course of the first year, establishing a strong understanding of the core concepts of Catholic Social Doctrine in a commercial setting. During the second year, the new Fellows will continue to be actively involved in the BEF quarterly case discussions and receptions, as well as mentoring members of that year's BEF Fellows cohort. In their third year, these now experienced BEF Fellows will have the opportunity to take on leadership roles in the BEF and the Fellows program grows and extends into other markets beyond Houston.

The BEF Fellows Curriculum

The BEF Fellows program includes four 1.5 day workshops led by leading academics, notable senior executives and entrepreneurs. Each workshop begins on Friday afternoons with a team building service project and dinner. Saturday begins with Mass and then a structured, rigorous and interactive “deep dive” into the content. Participants will also be expected to complete a self-study syllabus of pre-reads before each workshop and both Alex Havard's 11-unit on-line Virtuous Leadership course and Dr. Kevin Majeres' Optimal Work program. Together, this curriculum will enable the BEF Fellows to grow in personal virtue and firm understanding of how to achieve human and organizational excellence. Certification as a Fellow will only be conferred on those who have completed the program of workshops and self-study course. Syllabus follows on page 2.

Apply to Become a 2026 Fellow Candidate

To apply, please email: 1) your personal statement of interest in the BEF Fellows program including a commitment statement to completing its requirements, 2) a nomination letter from someone familiar with the BEF and your professional work and 3) your resume. The 2026 BEF Fellows Cohort will be announced on February 15 along with the schedule of workshops, case discussions and receptions.

The BEF Fellows Curriculum Syllabus

The four quarterly BEF Fellows program will be scheduled with the Cohort to accommodate any already scheduled commitments. As stated above, each workshop will begin on a Friday afternoon with a team building or service project and dinner followed by morning mass and the workshop content on Saturday through late afternoon. The venues will be The Houstonian or similar conference facilities.

Workshop 1: Fundamentals of Catholic Social Doctrine

- History of CSD Development
- Fundamental Principles
- Philosophical Basis of Subsidiarity and Solidarity

Workshop 2: Executive as Apostle

- Summary of *Virtuous Leadership*
- Aristotle and Aquinas on Happiness and Human Virtues
- The Executive as Cultural Leader – Lessons from Cicero on the Leading Citizen

Workshop 3: Integral Economic Development

- Overview of Dr. Sophia Aguirre's Framework
- Overview of Dr. Sam Condic's "World View" Framework

Workshop 4: Practical Applications of CSD

- Growing in Personal Effectiveness
- Capital Allocation within a Commercial Organization
- Culture and Human Performance Management
- Considerations for Board Governance

The curriculum will also include self-study materials. The pre-reads for the workshops will primarily be drawn from documents of the Catholic Church, in particular the [Compendium of Social Doctrine of the Church](#). Additionally, included in the BEF Fellows Fee is the cost for both Alexandre Havard's [Virtuous Leadership System](#) 11-module video course and Dr. Kevin Majeres' online [Optimal Work](#) coaching program.

Before submitting your application to become a Business Ethics Forum Fellow, please consider the nontrivial demand of your time and attention that participating in the workshop and completing the pre-read and self-study curriculum entails. The BEF Fellows Cohort approach works optimally when each participant is present and prepared.