**Applicant Name:**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Program Summary:** The Commonwealth of Virginia Engineering and Science (COVES) Policy Fellowship is a new 12-week fellowship program of the Virginia Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine (VASEM). The goal of the COVES Fellowship program is to strengthen ties between the scientific community and state government in the Commonwealth of Virginia, while encouraging and equipping early career scientists and engineers to enter public service. Graduate student and postdoctoral Fellows will serve as science advisors in legislative offices, executive agencies, or prominent companies and nonprofits in the state of Virginia where they will gain experience in the creation and translation of state policies related to science and engineering.

**The Virginia Academy of Science, Engineering & Medicine (VASEM):** VASEM is a resource for independent expertise to inform and assist with science and technology policy matters facing Virginia. VASEM is comprised of elected members of one of the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine and other key individuals that reside and work throughout Virginia. Its nonpartisan network of experts provides rigorous analytical and scientific support to inform policy decisions that are critical to the future of the Commonwealth.

**COVES Graduate Policy Fellowship:** The COVES Fellowship is a 12-week program that places Fellows in a legislative office, executive agency, or policy office in a company or nonprofit in Virginia. COVES Fellows will be current graduate students or postdoctoral researchers from universities across the Commonwealth of Virginia, selected based on career interests, desire to learn, and scientific integrity. Fellows will be matched to host offices based on mutual interest and placement availability. Prior to the Fellowship, Fellows will attend science communication training and orientation in Richmond, VA that will provide an introduction to governance and policy-making in the Commonwealth. In addition to their work in policy offices, COVES Fellows will be paired with a mentor from VASEM and will participate in VASEM briefings, committee meetings, and the annual summit.

**Fellowship Commitment:** The COVES Fellowship is a full time commitment that requires Fellows to work in offices outside their institution. Fellows’ actual schedule and duties will be determined by the Host Office, and Fellows should not have significant obligations to their lab or institution during their time in the Fellowship (May - August 2020). A stipend is provided to cover Fellows’ living expenses during their Fellowship in an effort to offset costs associated with this level of training.

As the Applicant’s advisor, I agree to the terms of the COVES Fellowship listed above.

Advisor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
  
Printed Name and Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_