



Sponsorship for 2022-2024 Externally-Funded Legal Fellowships

The Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law is one of the leading national civil rights legal organizations, with the principal mission of fighting racial discrimination faced by African Americans and other racial and ethnic minorities. The Lawyers' Committee was formed in 1963 at President John F. Kennedy's request to enlist the private bar's leadership and resources in combating racial discrimination and the resulting inequality of opportunity – work that continues to be vital today.

The Lawyers' Committee is soliciting applications from current law school students or recent graduates for sponsorship to serve as externally-funded legal fellows in one or more of the following project groups: **Voting Rights, Economic Justice, Criminal Justice, Educational Opportunities, James Byrd Jr. Center to Stop Hate, Public Policy, Special Litigation, and Advocacy, Fair Housing and Community Development, or Digital Justice.** Applicants should plan to begin their fellowship in the fall of 2022.

These fellowships provide an invaluable opportunity to become familiar with civil rights practice by working with many of the nation's leading civil rights experts at the Lawyers' Committee's national office in Washington, DC. Our fellows become involved with substantive legal work, including co-counseling litigation with prominent law firms and non-litigation activities such as transactional legal services, legislative and public policy advocacy, and public education on important civil rights matters. These fellowships are particularly well-suited for law school bridge fellows or individuals who have obtained other outside funding sources.

Please note that to apply for these fellowships, applicants must have secured, or be able to secure, outside funding, including through the **Skadden, Equal Justice Works, Justice Catalyst,** or other competitive fellowship or grant program. Upon accepting your application, Lawyers' Committee staff in your project group(s) will work with you to develop your project proposal according to the timeline and other requirements provided by your funding source.

Minimum Requirements and Competencies:

- A law degree, or expected by the spring of 2022;
- A strong and demonstrated commitment to civil rights and racial justice;
- Prior experience working with or ties to low-income communities of color;
- Excellent research, writing, and analytical skills as demonstrated through an internship, clinical, and other work experience, writing sample, and academic record;

- Ability to work cooperatively on a variety of projects with all Lawyers' Committee staff and to develop and maintain positive relationships with diverse clients and community organizations;
- Effective written and oral communication skills in both legal and non-legal settings; and
- At most, two years of practice by the time the Fellowship starts. Current law students who expect to graduate in the spring of 2022 are encouraged to apply.

Preference will be given to applicants who:

- Can demonstrate involvement in activities, employment, or scholarship which promote racial justice and inclusion and opportunity for historically marginalized communities; and
- Have been admitted to the bar, or are scheduled to take a bar examination by the summer of 2022.

To Apply: Please submit PDF versions of the following: (1) a resume, (2) a cover letter, (3) a writing sample, (4), official or unofficial transcript, and (5) a short project proposal to <https://podio.com/webforms/23931878/1733555>. Please thoroughly review all of your materials before submitting them.

Applications are due on July 9, 2021, by 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time. The deadline will be strictly enforced.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Due to the volume of applications received, please note that the Fellowship Selection Committee will not be able to inform every applicant regarding the status of their application. The Committee will contact all applicants when the selection of finalists has been completed. We thank you for your understanding in advance.

If you have any questions about any aspect of these fellowships or the Lawyers' Committee, please contact the Fellowship Selection Committee by emailing fellowships@lawyerscommittee.org.

Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion: The Lawyers' Committee embraces diversity and inclusion in our workplace. We strongly encourage candidates of color and candidates from underrepresented communities to apply. The Lawyers' Committee does not discriminate on the basis of actual or perceived race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, disability, medical condition, marital status, sex, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, family responsibility, personal appearance, genetic information, matriculation, political affiliation, or any other status protected under law.

Accessibility Assistance: Although calls will not be accepted regarding questions about the position, if you are an individual with a disability and need assistance completing the online application, please call 202-662-8600 and ask for an applicant accommodation; send an email with the subject line "Applicant Accommodation" to kcoates@lawyerscommittee.org.