

SPILF-Stanford Law School Public Interest Fellowship 2009 Fellowship Application and Procedures

The second annual SPILF-Stanford Law School Public Interest Fellowship will enable the recipient to work full-time for a year in a law-related endeavor designed to further the public interest. One fellow will be selected in March 2009, and all members of the SLS Classes of 2004-2009 are eligible to apply. The fellowship will include: a one-year salary of \$45,000, benefits that the sponsoring organization would ordinarily provide to an employee at the recipient's level, and a free BarBri course in the recipient's state of choice. (Note: The Law School's LRAP will provide additional funds to meet educational loan repayment obligations during the fellowship year).

CRITERIA:

The recipient must be sponsored by a 501(c) (3) organization that provides legal services for underrepresented communities or otherwise serves the public interest.

Eligible organizations may engage in direct legal services, impact litigation, or policy advocacy, either domestically or abroad. The Fellowship Committee seeks projects with objectives including but not limited to:

- Representing groups with unmet legal need;
- Addressing the underlying causes and consequences of injustice, poverty, and disenfranchisement;
- Creating a society free from racism, sexism, heterosexism, and economic exploitation and supporting the rights of disabled people, immigrants and refugees, the LGBTQ community, people of color, women, workers, youth and the elderly;
- Promoting public health and environmental quality by working to change the root causes of environmental degradation;
- Community economic development.

In reviewing each application, the committee will consider several factors, including the applicant's long-term commitment to a career in public interest law, the need for the proposed project, the potential impact of the project and its place in the applicant's conception of social justice, and the capacity of both the applicant and sponsoring organization to support the project. In evaluating these factors, the committee will look to the application and accompanying essays, law school record, recommendations, and organizational letter of support.

The committee will give preference to new projects but will also consider proposals to continue work the applicant began while receiving funding from another fellowship.

FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES:

The fellow will work on the designated project for one year, beginning in September 2009. During the fellowship year, the law school will fund the fellow to return to Stanford for the purpose of sharing his or her experiences with the SLS community. In addition, the fellow is expected to attend SPILF's annual "Bid for Justice" Auction. This year, the auction will be held on March 7, 2009 at the Law School. SPILF and SLS will recognize the fellow publicly that evening.

HOW TO APPLY:

Applicants who wish to begin work in September 2009 must submit a complete application by **February 2, 2009**. During the month of February, the selection committee will interview finalists and make a final decision by March 2, 2009.

The fellow will be selected, and all applicants notified, by March 2, 2009. All applicants must submit the following:

- Resume or CV
- Completed application form
- Official law school transcript
- At least two (2) letters of recommendation from relevant sources (professors and/or legal employers)
- Commitment letter from potential sponsoring organization (and brochure if available)
- 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status qualifying letter for organization

Feel free to attach separate pages as necessary.

Please submit applications in person to Nancy Patton, NWPatton@law.stanford.edu, in the garden level of the law school, or mail applications to:

SPILF-Stanford Law School Fellowship Committee
c/o Stanford Public Interest Law Foundation
Stanford Law School
Crown Quadrangle
559 Nathan Abbott Way
Stanford, CA 9430

Please address all questions regarding the fellowship to Alexa Van Brunt (SLS '09) at spilffellowship@gmail.com.

I) APPLICANT'S BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Name:

(Last) (First) (M.I.)

Address:

Daytime Telephone Number: _____

Evening Telephone Number: _____

Year of Graduation: _____

Please list extracurricular activities and/or journal membership. Where applicable, indicate any leadership positions you hold or held.

If you are an alumna/us who is currently clerking or in the workforce:

Job Title: _____

Judge or Employer Name and Address:

Bar Admission(s):

Previous Public Interest Legal Experience (i.e., summer internships, clinics, externships):

1) Location: _____

Address: _____

Position: _____ Dates: _____

2) Location: _____

Address: _____

Position: _____ Dates: _____

3) Location: _____

Address: _____

Position: _____ Dates: _____

Other Employment:

1) Employer: _____

Address: _____

Position: _____ Dates: _____

2) Employer: _____

Address: _____

Position: _____ Dates: _____

3) Employer: _____

Address: _____

Position: _____ Dates: _____

II) SPONSORING ORGANIZATION:

Name of Organization:

Address:

Telephone Number: _____

Name and Title of Supervising Attorney:

Please provide a brief statement of your proposed project, which may appear on our website. Note that we ask for a more detailed description in the "Essays" section. (Limited to 250 characters, including spaces).

III) LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION:

Please provide the following information about your two recommenders:

1) Name:

Address: _____

Tel. No.: _____

Relationship to Applicant:

2) Name:

Address: _____

Tel. No.: _____

Relationship to Applicant:

IV) OTHER INFORMATION:

Have you applied for any other fellowships or grants? If yes, please describe any such awards you have received, including the amount of the award and the name of the granting organization. If you have not yet heard the results of an application, please indicate when you anticipate a response.

V) ESSAYS:

a. Please describe your project. What need, legal right(s), and/or client constituency will you address? What other work is being done or has been done in this field? (Limited to 500 words).

b. What is your general theory of social change? How does your project fit into this theory? (Limited to 500 words).

c. [Optional] Please provide any other information you believe is relevant to your application. (Limited to 500 words).

VI) Signature

I hereby certify that the information in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that falsified statements on this application shall be considered sufficient cause for disqualification from fellowship consideration. I agree to inform the selection committee of any pertinent changes to my application or status (to include grant money I receive from other sources) after I submit this application.

Applicant's Signature

Date