Columbia Law School
LL.M. Postgraduate Public Interest & Government Fellowship 2018
Notice and Application

Columbia Law School (CLS) is pleased to offer the Public Interest and Government Postgraduate Fellowships ("Fellowships") for LL.M. graduates beginning their careers in public interest law, including human rights, or in government service. First, they allow graduates to gain the experience, skills and professional networks they need to obtain permanent paid positions in their fields. Second, they enable public interest organizations and government agencies confronting great demand and diminished resources to benefit from the services of talented young lawyers. Priority will be given to students who demonstrate a substantial commitment to and preparation for careers as public interest or government lawyers.

Fellowships will be awarded to selected 2018 LL.M. graduates who obtain positions at qualified sponsor organizations. The position must require the fellow to make use of her/his legal education. To accommodate different student needs and limited fellowship funds efficiently, there is great flexibility regarding the length of fellowships for which applicants may apply. Fellowship stipends will be $550 per week of full-time work. Applications may be made for fellowships ranging between 10 weeks and 52 weeks. Applicants may request grants for several time periods detailing their different options for each. (For example, “A fellowship of ten weeks would allow me to...” “A fellowship of six months would allow me to....”). A maximum of one fellowship will be awarded to any applicant.

To be considered for this fellowship, an applicant must obtain a public interest organization or government agency sponsor. Social Justice Initiatives (SJI) advisors will work with applicants to identify organizations that might be a good match.

Fellows must make a commitment to work at their sponsoring organization full-time, which is at least 35 hours per week. Fellows who secure and begin a full-time paid position before the end of the fellowship period or leave the fellowship position for any reason will not receive additional fellowship payments after their departure date.

Fellows are not considered employees of Columbia Law School. Columbia Law School cannot pay for health insurance or other benefits. In some cases, fellows are able to arrange to receive benefits through their sponsors.

This packet contains information about eligibility requirements and application and selection procedures, including deadlines. Please read carefully.
ELIGIBILITY

CLS Public Interest and Government Postgraduate LL.M. Fellowships are available to members of the LL.M. Class of 2018 who:

- Have completed the requirements for their LL.M. degree
- Obtain a position at a qualified sponsor that will make direct use of the fellow’s legal education
- Are unemployed and do not have a fellowship, stipend or other source of funding to work during the time period for which a grant is sought

A “qualified sponsor” is a public interest organization or government agency (federal, state, local, multinational, or international) that commits, contingent upon the applicant’s receipt of a CLS Fellowship, to:

- Provide the applicant with a position that will utilize his or her legal education
- Provide appropriate training and supervision during the fellowship period

Columbia Law School faculty members and Columbia Law School Centers are not qualifying employer sponsors.

Please note that priority for the fellowship will be given to applicants who:

- Exhibit a substantial commitment to pursue a career in public interest law or government service (including those who are transitioning from the private sector)
- Demonstrate preparation for a career in public interest law or government service
- Will endeavor to work in the public interest or government sector immediately following the conclusion of the fellowship

FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS

1. MEET WITH AN SJI ADVISOR (MANDATORY)

Applicants must meet with an SJI career advisor BEFORE submitting an application. Among other things, advisors can help identify public interest organizations or government agencies that match applicants’ interests and will benefit from their service. Nyaguthii Chege will work with applicants interested in working for a human rights organization or international public institution. Maddie Kurtz will work with applicants interested in working for a domestic public interest organization. Rachel Pauley will work with applicants interested in working for a federal, state, or local government agency. Applicants with multiple interests are encouraged to

1 A public interest entity is one whose proclaimed purpose is the advancement of a vision of the public good that is broader than the interest of particular clients or one that provides legal services for a specifically defined low-income population. Such entities will normally be domestic 501(c) (3) nonprofit organizations or international nongovernmental organizations. Columbia Law School will determine whether or not a particular employer satisfies this requirement.
meet with multiple advisors. Information about the advisors is available here. Appointments should be made through Symplicity.

2. APPLY TO SPONSORS
Apply directly to nonprofit organizations or government agencies of interest with a cover letter, resume, and additional materials if appropriate.

3. SUBMIT A FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION BY May 4, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.
It is important to comply with the requirements for applications set forth on the application form, which is attached to this notice.

Applications must be received by Social Justice Initiatives no later than May 4, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. All parts of the application must be submitted at once with the exception of the recommendation letter, which may be submitted separately, at the option of the recommender.

DELIVERY METHOD
Applications must be emailed to rebecca.hinde@law.columbia.edu. You will receive a confirmation of receipt within 24 business hours. The application must consist of a single .pdf.

Applications may NOT be submitted by fax, mail, or in person.

FELLOWSHIP TIMELINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>April 2 – April 25</th>
<th>Schedule an appointment through Symplicity to meet with Nyaguthii Chege, Maddie Kurtz, or Rachel Pauley</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 4 at 3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Applications may be submitted at any time, but they must be received by this date</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 2018</td>
<td>Applicants are informed of decisions</td>
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FELLOWSHIP CONTACTS

Rebecca Hinde*
Program Coordinator for Public Interest and Government Programs
FELLOWSHIP ADMINISTRATOR
rebecca.hinde@law.columbia.edu
212-854-3535

Nyaguthii Chege
Director, International, Human Rights, and Summer Programs
HUMAN RIGHTS & PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL ADVISOR
nchege@law.columbia.edu
212-854-3247

Maddie Kurtz
Director of Public Interest Professional Development
PUBLIC INTEREST ADVISOR
mkurtz@law.columbia.edu
212-854-8360

Rachel Pauley
Director of Government Programs
GOVERNMENT ADVISOR
rachel.pauley@law.columbia.edu
212-854-7486

* Rebecca Hinde is the contact for administrative or logistical questions about the fellowship submission process. Substantive questions about fellowship requirements or about your application, such as whether an organization would be an appropriate sponsor, should be directed to an advisor.
Columbia Law School
LL.M. Postgraduate Public Interest & Government Fellowship 2018
Application

First and Last Name: ________________________________________________________________

Current Email Address: ______________________________________________________________

Alternate Email Address: ______________________________________________________________

To apply, please email a single pdf document including the following documents in the order listed below. Email the .pdf to rebecca.hinde@law.columbia.edu using the subject line "CLS Fellowship Application" followed by your last name and first name.

- This cover sheet.
- An essay explaining how a position with the sponsoring employer will help you begin a career in your chosen field (no more than one page).
- Your resume.
- A copy of your law school transcript (unofficial transcripts are acceptable).
- A letter of recommendation, preferably from a member of the Columbia Law School faculty. The letter may be sent with the rest of the application or separately at the discretion of the person writing the letter. If sent separately, it must be emailed to rebecca.hinde@law.columbia.edu no later than the deadline for the rest of the application.
- A list of two additional references, including their titles, organizations, and contact information. We recommend that at least one be someone who supervised your legal work.
- A commitment letter from your qualified sponsor that demonstrates its qualifications as a sponsor for purposes of this fellowship and describes the work you will be assigned and the training and supervision you will receive if your application is successful.
- If you are a joint degree candidate, certification from the institution conferring the joint degree that all requirements will be completed in time for you to receive both degrees in May 2018.
- If the sponsor is a U.S. registered tax-exempt organization, a copy of its 501(c)(3) Tax-exempt Status Qualifying Letter.

Your signature and submission of this form constitutes your statement that you are not employed and do not have a fellowship, stipend, or other source of funding to work for 2018-2019.

If you have accepted an offer for a paid position or a fellowship in the future, please identify the position, employer, and start date:

____________________________________________________________________________________

Signature: ___________________________ Date: ______________

This application, including the letter of recommendation, must be received at rebecca.hinde@law.columbia.edu no later than May 4 at 3 p.m.