Columbia Law School
Postgraduate J.D. Public Interest & Government Fellowship 2018
Notice and Application

Columbia Law School (CLS) is pleased to offer Postgraduate Public Interest and Government Fellowships (“Fellowships”) for 2018 law school graduates interested in beginning their careers in public interest law, including human rights, or in government service. The fellowships serve two important purposes. 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.

To be considered for a fellowship, applicants must first obtain a written commitment by a “qualified sponsor” to provide meaningful legal work and supervision. 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 for a one-year fellowship period that will require the use of his or her legal education
- Provide appropriate training and supervision during the fellowship period
- Consider the fellow for an appropriate permanent full-time paid position if applicable funding becomes available

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

The fellowships pay a stipend of $40,000 for one year of full-time work. Fellows must commit to full-time work at their sponsoring organization (at least 35 hours per week) for twelve consecutive months.

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
In addition to the aforementioned, CLS Public Interest and Government Postgraduate Fellowships are available to members of the Class of 2018 who:

- Have or will have completed the requirements for their law school degree (and all joint degrees, if any) by May 30, 2018
- Are unemployed and do not have a fellowship, stipend, or other source of funding to work in 2018-2019
- Intend to take the July 2018 bar examination or took the February 2018 exam

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

- Demonstrate a substantial commitment to pursuing a career in public interest law or government service
- Demonstrate preparation for a career in public interest law or government service
- Will endeavor to obtain employment in the public interest or government sector before or immediately following the fellowship’s conclusion

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. **Nyanguthi 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 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 resume, cover letter, and additional materials as appropriate.

3. **SUBMIT A FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION BY May 30, 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 30, 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. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

**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 – May 11</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 30 at 3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Deadline to email an application</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 2018</td>
<td>Applicants are informed of decisions</td>
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FELLOWSHIP CONTACTS

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

Nyaguthii Chege
Director, International, Human Rights and Summer Programs
HUMAN RIGHTS & PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL ADVISOR
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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
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 your law school's 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 of your references 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 fellowship in the future, please identify the position and
employer and indicate when the position will commence:

____________________________________________________________________________

Signature: ____________________________________________ Date: _________________

This application, including the letter of recommendation, must be received
at rebecca.hinde@law.columbia.edu no later than May 30, 2018 at 3 p.m.