

The Summer Fellowship Program

The Legal Aid Summer Fellowship Program provides full-time employment to approximately 40 law students for 11 weeks during the summer at legal aid and legal services program offices in Florida. Fellows are supervised by legal aid staff attorneys and they gain first-hand experience on how lawyers make a difference in the lives of indigent clients. Florida Bar Foundation Summer Fellows have opportunities to work on cases that affect children, immigrants, disabled clients, the elderly, and other low-income individuals.

Summer Fellowship stipends for the eleven-week period are \$5,500 for first-year law students; and \$7,000 for second-year law students.



Fellowship Purposes

1. To involve fellowship recipients in the provision of high-quality, significant civil legal assistance to the poor in critical areas of need.
2. To provide an in-depth educational experience in representing the poor and working with individual clients and client groups in civil matters.
3. To increase law student interest in and awareness of the legal problems of the poor and the challenges and satisfaction of representing the poor.
4. To promote commitment to pro bono representation of the poor.

“There were so many clients we were able to assist, and for those people our assistance was life-altering, which is about as fulfilling a feeling as you can hope to have at the end of the day.”

- Former Summer Fellow



“I’ve always had an interest in doing public interest law, as a result of what brought me to law school in the first place. But working here this summer has solidified that.”

- Jarred Reiling

2009 Summer Fellow, Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County

Application and Selection Process

Summer Fellowship applications will be available on-line at The Florida Bar Foundation website at www.floridabarfoundation.org after November 15, 2009. Summer Fellowship application information will be provided to Career Services offices at each of the law schools in Florida.

All applications must be submitted on-line via the application form located on the Foundation’s website: www.floridabarfoundation.org by January 21, 2010. Selection and notification to students will be completed by early February 2010.

Fellowship Term

The Summer Fellowship Program kicks off with a training and orientation seminar in Orlando, Florida. The 2010 summer training and orientation seminar will be held on May 20 – 21, 2010. Housing, meals, and reasonable travel expenses for the seminar will be provided. Fellows are scheduled to report to work at their legal aid program placement on Monday, May 24, following the training and orientation seminar. The 2010 Summer Fellowship Program ends on August 6, 2010.

Student Eligibility

First-year and second-year law students attending an accredited law school are eligible to apply, provided that they are in good standing at their law school. Minority students are particularly encouraged to apply. Applicants should have a sincere and demonstrated interest in public service work, or in providing free legal assistance to the poor.

Selection Criteria

Among the several factors to be considered in the selection of successful applicants are:

- The depth and breadth of the applicant’s commitment and experience in working with the low-income community.
- The applicant’s passion, insight, and personal commitment to public service and pro bono work.
- The applicant’s background and personal story, including their minority status, cultural diversity, and poverty experience.
- The applicant’s future career goals and employment objectives.
- The thoughtfulness, care, and clarity the applicant puts into completing the application.
- The applicant’s writing skills and academic achievements.

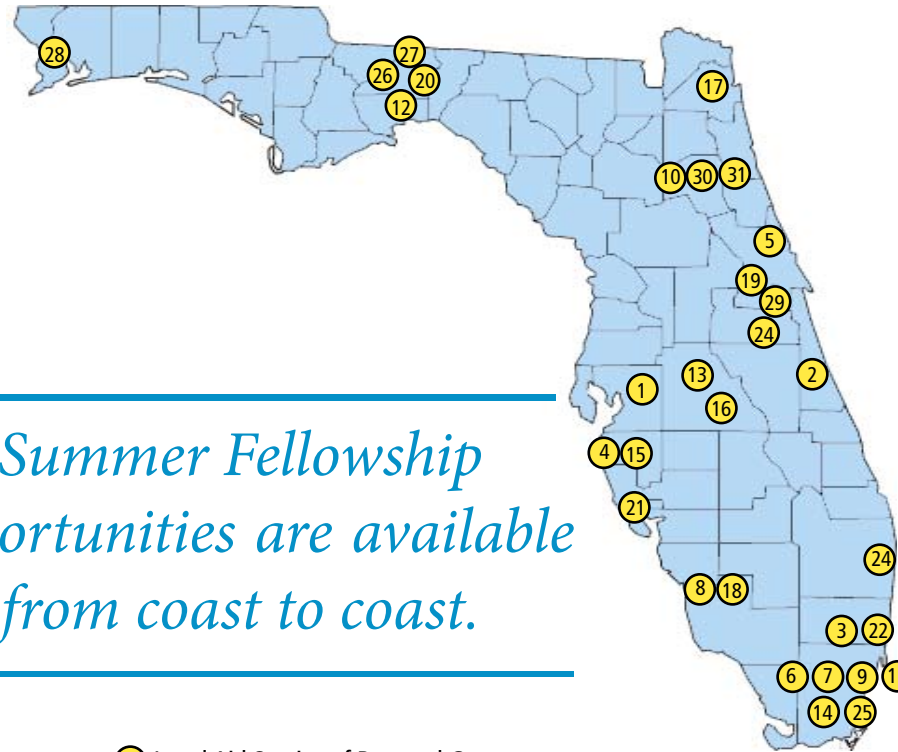
Law student applicants will be provided an opportunity to specify their program placement preference. Due to the necessity of insuring placement throughout Florida in a variety of programs and sites, student flexibility in preference sites may be a factor in selection.

For more information about The Florida Bar Foundation’s Summer Fellowship program, please visit our Web site: www.floridabarfoundation.org.

Or contact Clara Bevington via email at: cbevington@flabarfdn.org.

Legal Aid Programs Throughout Florida

- 1 Bay Area Legal Services, *Tampa*
- 2 Brevard County Legal Aid, *Rockledge*
- 3 Coast to Coast Legal Aid of South Florida, *Ft. Lauderdale*
- 4 Community Law Program, *St. Petersburg*
- 5 Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida, *Daytona Beach*
- 6 Cuban American Bar Association, *Miami*
- 7 Dade County Bar Association Legal Aid Society, *Miami*
- 8 Florida Equal Justice Center, *Ft. Myers*
- 9 Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center, *Miami*
- 10 Florida Institutional Legal Services, *Gainesville*
- 11 Florida Justice Institute, *Miami*
- 12 Florida Legal Services, *Tallahassee*
- 13 Florida Rural Legal Services, *Lakeland*
- 14 Guardianship Program of Dade County, *Miami*
- 15 Gulfcoast Legal Services, *St. Petersburg*
- 16 Heart of Florida Legal Aid Society, *Bartow*
- 17 Jacksonville Area Legal Aid, *Jacksonville*
- 18 Lee County Legal Aid Society, *Ft. Myers*
- 19 Legal Advocacy Center of Central Florida, *Sanford*
- 20 Legal Aid Foundation of the Tallahassee Bar Association, *Tallahassee*
- 21 Legal Aid of Manasota, *Sarasota*



Summer Fellowship opportunities are available from coast to coast.

- 22 Legal Aid Service of Broward County, *Ft. Lauderdale-Naples*
- 23 Legal Aid Society of the Orange County Bar Association, *Orlando*
- 24 Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County, *West Palm Beach*
- 25 Legal Services of Greater Miami, *Miami*
- 26 Legal Services of North Florida, *Tallahassee*
- 27 North Florida Center for Equal Justice, *Tallahassee*
- 28 Northwest Florida Legal Services, *Pensacola*
- 29 Seminole County Bar Association Legal Aid Society, *Longwood*
- 30 Southern Legal Counsel, *Gainesville*
- 31 Three Rivers Legal Services, *Gainesville*



The Florida Bar Foundation's Legal Aid Summer Fellowship Program



Summer 2010