

Post-Grad Public Interest Project-Based Fellowships: A Suggested Timeline

1L spring semester:

- Look at EJW & Skadden websites to see list of organizations that have hosted EJW or Skadden projects recently; consider these organizations for summer jobs*
- Identify key attorneys/activists leaders & organizations in areas of interest, find mentors
- Join relevant student groups/SLPS, attend outside networking events or participate in projects with PIPS attorneys (Occupy, NLG, etc.) (i.e. be an **activist**, not just a *student activist*)
- Talk to alumni fellows for advice and mentorship (see CDO)

2L year:

- Secure summer job with organization with history of fellowship hosting*
- Do externships & clinics to refine project ideas
- Connect with faculty to get good letters of recommendation
- Be active in social justice community & causes outside of law school
- *Pro tip:* pick writing requirement topic that will allow you to research project idea(s)
- Take substantive & skills-based classes relevant to your interests & potential project ideas; Skadden cares about grades, but don't need to be in top of class
- (Late spring) Begin looking for announcements from organizations with competitive process for selecting fellows
- Sign up for CDO's fellowships email list

3L early fall

- Finish applications and submit as deadlines approach
- If invited to interview, do mock interviews w/CDO & alumni fellows to prep

1L summer:

- While at your job, start thinking about potential fellowship project ideas
 - Consider: population to serve & how you want to improve their lives, strategies to use, your personal connection to your project idea(s), suitability of summer employer to be your host (OK to ask)
 - What's working and what's not? How can existing work be improved? Where are the holes?

2L summer:

- Follow CDO's timeline for finalizing project idea, securing host & completing first draft of EJW/Skadden application
- Meet with CDO to get help finding host & writing draft applications
- Attend Fellowship Bootcamp workshop in August to refine project idea with help from faculty and former fellows

*It is not a prerequisite to be hosted by an organization that has successfully hosted fellows before. However, funders want to ensure that fellows get the best possible mentorship, and past successful hosts have a proven track record of mentoring new attorneys. If you want to be hosted by an organization that hasn't hosted a fellow before, the potential host's capacity to mentor and train you should be of primary concern. Talk to one of the attorney-counselors at the CDO for further guidance.