

2021 1L Diversity Fellowship Program Frequently Asked Questions

Fish & Richardson, a global law firm dedicated to intellectual property, litigation and technology law, is pleased to announce its 1L Diversity Fellowship Program for 2021. Here are answers to the most frequently asked questions regarding Fish's 1L Diversity Fellowship Program.

Q: How many Fellowships will be awarded through this program?

A: Since the program's inception, we have awarded between 3-7 Fellowships annually. While our overall summer program hiring needs may change from time to time, we hope to continue this practice.

Q: I am an evening law student. Am I eligible to apply for the Fellowship?

A: If you are still considered a first-year law student, have not yet entered your second year of law school, and have two summers before graduation, you are eligible to apply.

Q: I do not currently have an official undergraduate transcript. Can I submit an unofficial one with my application?

A: For your initial application submission, you may submit an unofficial transcript. Official transcripts will be requested of candidates who enter the interview process. Law school transcripts will also be requested at that time.

Q: Does my writing sample need to be legal or can it be a technical writing sample? How long should it be?

A: All applications submitted must include a legal writing sample. It is acceptable to submit a writing sample from your legal writing course taken in law school. Typically, a five to ten page sample is sufficient for our review purposes. In addition to your legal writing sample, you may submit any technical writing samples or publications that you feel showcase your technical aptitude or writing abilities.

Q: Should I submit a cover letter with my application?

A: No, you do not need to submit a separate cover letter with your application. You may use your personal statement to include any pertinent information you would like to communicate to the selection committee.

Q: What type of information is the selection committee looking for in my application?

A: Our Fellowship selection committee will be reviewing application materials in search of future indicators of success. Information that may be of considerable interest to the committee includes:

- Technical or science background/experience
- Commitment and contribution to diversity
- Writing and analytical abilities
- Demonstrated work ethic
- Academic achievements
- Leadership abilities
- Personal accomplishments
- Professional goals and interests which align with the firm

Q: What is the timeline for the Fellowship selection process?

A: Applications for the 2021 Diversity Fellowship are currently being accepted. To apply, visit the "Law Student Positions" link on fr.com/careers. Please apply to the Diversity Fellowship only once, clicking the office link for your top location choice. The priority deadline is December 30. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, and applications received after this date may not be considered if the program is already full.

Should you be selected, you will be invited to one of our firmwide virtual interviews, which will be held on Monday, January 11 or Tuesday, January 12, 2021.

A final review committee will select the Fellowship recipients and the recipients will be notified by mid-February. A formal offer package with details of the Fellowship benefits and requirements will follow.

Q: When is a Diversity Fellow expected to participate in the summer associate program?

A: Diversity Fellows will be expected to participate in the full summer program. Exact program dates will be provided at the time of a formal offer.

Q: My law school is on the quarter system, and 1L finals do not end until early June. Would it be possible for me to participate in the program slightly later in the summer, or will my availability make me ineligible to apply?

A: We understand that some law schools may be on the quarter system. Should you be selected as a Fellow, we will work with you on a schedule accommodation so that you may fully participate in the summer program.

Q: If I am awarded a Fellowship, will I be able to split my summer between Fish and another position elsewhere?

A: We expect our Diversity Fellows to spend their entire 1L summer with Fish.

Q: Are the Diversity Fellows paid the same as other summer associates?

A: Diversity Fellows are paid the same salary as other summer associates participating in Fish's summer associate program. Our 2021 summer salary will be \$3,654 per week.

Q: If I am selected as a Fellow, when will I receive a monetary award?

A: The \$5,000 monetary award will be given at the end of the 1L summer. The \$10,000 award will be given at the end of the 2L summer to clerks who return for the full summer program. The \$15,000 award will be paid upon joining the firm as an associate after law school graduation.

Q: If I am attending law school on an academic scholarship, will I still be eligible to receive the 1L Diversity Fellowship's award?

A: Yes, you are still eligible to receive the 1L Diversity Fellowship monetary award even though you may be attending law school on an academic scholarship.

Q: What if I have additional questions?

A: Please contact us at diversity@fr.com to learn more about the Fish & Richardson 1L Diversity Fellowship Program.