

Your Project-Based Fellowships Action Plan



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What Are Fellowships?

Opportunities designed to give a recent law graduate or junior attorney practice experience. Usually term-limited (1-2 years).

Two Kinds of Fellowships:

Organizational

Project-Based

Organizational Fellowships: Key Features

- Funded by the organization for which the fellow is working
- Similar to a “normal” job where the employer pays the employee’s salary
- Many more of these available than project-based fellowships
- Timelines vary, but deadlines often in 3L fall

Examples:

- **Non-profit** (ex. ACLU; NRDC; Immigrant Justice Corps)
- **Academic** (ex. Georgetown – Prettyman; Columbia – Climate Change)
- **Firm** (ex. Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger)
- **Government** (ex. Santa Clara County Counsel)

Funders



Borchard Foundation Center on Law & Aging

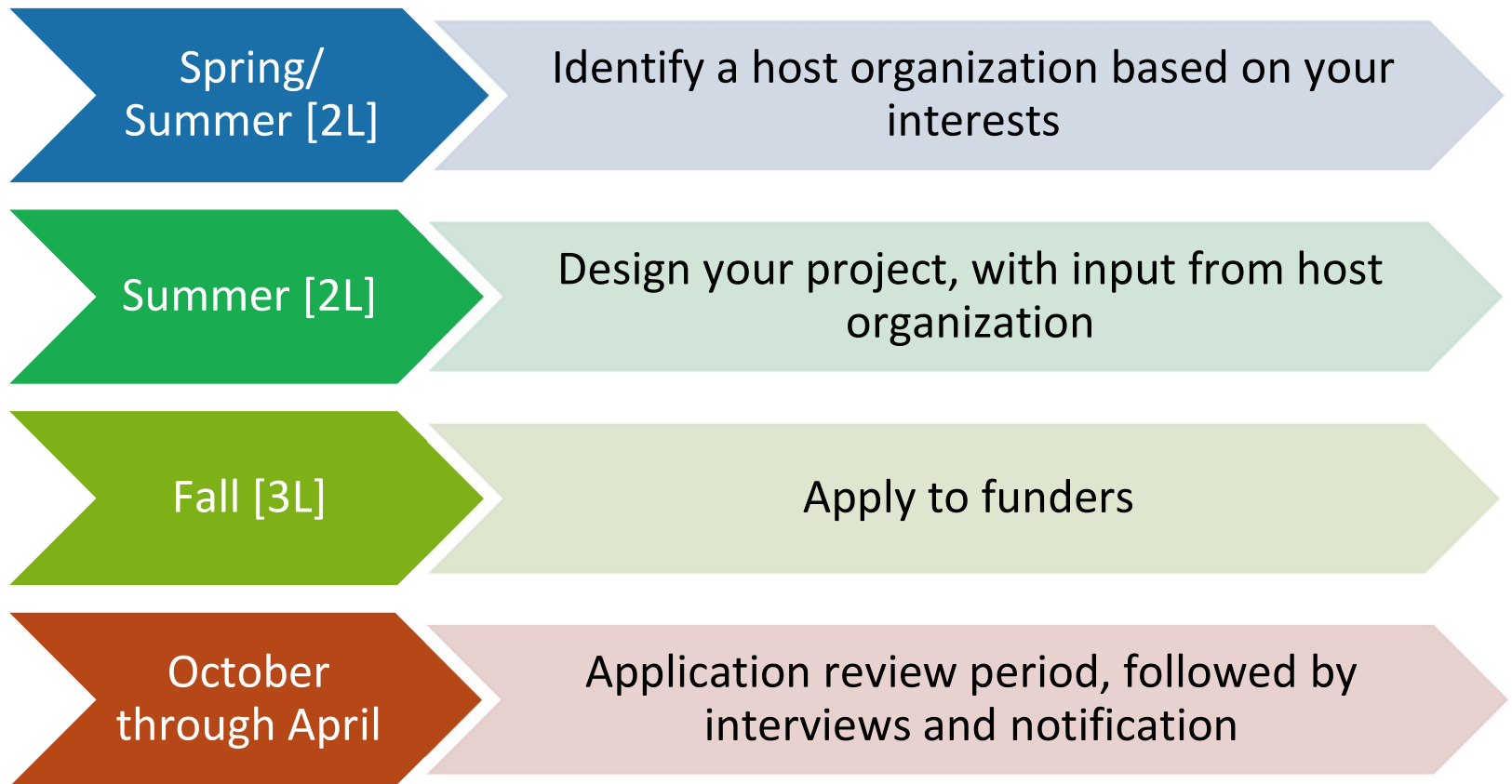
Key Questions for Project Based Fellowships

- What is the legal need you've identified?
- Why are you the one to meet it?
- Why is your host the ideal partner in this?
- Why should the project be funded?
- What impact will it have?
- How does your project match the funder's priorities and parameters?
 - Skadden- unmet legal need with tangible outcomes, "no policy first projects"
 - EJW- project goes beyond a typical staff attorney role to fill a gap in justice in a tangible way
 - Justice Catalyst- broad scale social change often through impact litigation

Action Plan!

- Find host organization (we'll be going into this in more detail)
 - 2L Spring/Summer through 3L Fall
- Design a project (including legal research)
 - 2L Spring/Summer through 3L Fall
- Draft application (incl. review and letters of rec)
 - August-September of 3L year
 - Review review review! Use CDO, alums, your host supervisors, and more.
- Submit applications on time
 - Early September of 3L year- EJW and Skadden
 - Others may vary- October (Justice Catalyst prospectus) to January (Berkeley Law Foundation)
- Interview
 - October (Skadden) - April (end of EJW)

Action Plan!



Panelists

Amy Reavis

- Berkeley Law '22
- Skadden, Montana Legal Services

Mattie Armstrong

- Berkeley Law '21
- EJW, Dolores Street Community Services (now Mission Action)

Rachel Appel

- Berkeley Law '23
- Campaign Legal Center

Finding a Host

- Develop a host shortlist
- Reach out and start the conversation
 - Intro of yourself, statement of interest in their work, resume for reference, possible hint at a project idea

And remember, use your same job search tools when looking into hosts!

- With some hosts you may need to approach them, and we at the CDO can help with that.
- With other hosts, they may have a more formalized application process (often quite similar to a regular job application) that you'll need to look out for and be on top of.

Host Considerations

- Organization's capacity to supervise new attorneys and take on actual work with you.
- Geography- where do you want to be
- Past experience with fellows (not necessary, you can make novelty compelling but so is an experienced host!)
- Capacity to help develop your project and help you with your applications
- Mission alignment
- Funder specific priorities- how this relates to hosts

1 Support from Berkeley Law

- Google Group
- Alumni Contacts
- Host Organization Counseling
- Project Planning Counseling
- Application Strategy Counseling
- Midsummer Workshopping
- Proposal Draft Review
- Mock Interviews

REMINDER! Upcoming!
Skadden Fellowship Info Session
Room 100, 1-2 pm, April 22

Class of 2027 Fellowship Google Group



RSVP: 4/22 Skadden Info Session

