

# MASSBAR FOUNDATION

## 2024 LEGAL INTERN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Applications Due March 8, 2024

Apply online at [www.massbarfoundation.org/lifp](http://www.massbarfoundation.org/lifp)

### GENERAL INFORMATION

The Legal Intern Fellowship Program was established in 1996 to encourage careers in the law that further the goals of social justice while contributing valuable legal support to organizations serving the under-represented in Massachusetts. To assist law students in gaining practical experience in the public sector, the Massachusetts Bar Foundation will award at least three stipends of **\$8,000** each to law students who intern during the summer months at nonprofit organizations providing civil legal services to low-income clients in Massachusetts. These awards are supported by generous contributions from MBF Fellows, the Smith Family Fund, and the MBA Diversity Equity & Inclusion Committee.

### APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS

The Legal Intern Fellowship Program invites applications from law students **who have secured a volunteer internship** with a qualified nonprofit organization in Massachusetts. The principal activity of the internship must be the provision of civil legal aid to low-income clients. In addition, applicants must:

- Be currently enrolled in a United States law school at the time of application and during the internship. Preference may be given to permanent/future residents of Massachusetts.
- Demonstrate a commitment to public interest law, including experience working with low-income clients and/or issues that affect this population.
- Commit to work no less than 10 continuous, full-time weeks between May 1 and September 30, 2024. Note: *Applicant must specify the duration of their commitment at the time of application.*

**Looking for an internship?** Many MBF IOLTA Program grant award recipients meet the eligibility requirements of the LIFP. For a full list of grantees, visit [www.massbarfoundation.org/grants](http://www.massbarfoundation.org/grants). Please be advised that applicants are not limited to these organizations.

Stipends will be paid directly to the intern's organization. The organization will be responsible for administering the stipend, including payment to the intern and filing appropriate tax reports. Stipends may be combined with other awards.

The proposed internship must be designed to give the intern substantial legal experience with serving and representing clients as well as preparing legal documents. The internship must be conducted at a nonprofit organization in Massachusetts that has been in operation for at least one year and has programs dedicated to providing civil legal services to low-income clients in Massachusetts. **Please note that government placements are not eligible internship sites for this program.** The organization must have a staff attorney who will supervise and mentor the intern.

Please note, the following internships are **not eligible** for funding:

- criminal law-related internships;
- public policy or research focused placements;
- placements at state or federal government agencies; and
- placements at law school-sponsored clinics when students are receiving academic credit for their work.

### APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Application materials must be submitted electronically and must be received by the MBF **by 5:00 PM EST, on March 8, 2024.**

A complete application submitted through the MBF's online application portal will include the following:

1. Applicant and Internship Information
2. Essay
3. Resume
4. One Letter of Reference from a Supervisor, Professor, or Similar Professional Contact
5. Unofficial Law School Transcript
6. Unofficial Undergraduate Transcript
7. Organization Supporting Statement Form

Please contact the MBF with any questions at 617-338-0647 or [foundation@massbar.org](mailto:foundation@massbar.org).

### SELECTION PROCESS

A committee of Trustees will select the most competitive applicants to receive stipends. Applicants will be notified of final decisions by April 30, 2024.