



Oregon Immigrant Justice Fellowship Frequently Asked Questions

BACKGROUND

The Oregon Immigrant Justice Fellowship program, sponsored by Oregon Worker Relief, provides new and emerging lawyers with an opportunity to provide legal services directly in the impacted immigrant community. Using a competitive process, new and emerging attorneys from Oregon law schools and nationwide will apply for up to 4 fellowships for a one-year term (renewable for a second year) beginning in Fall 2024. There will be a strong preference for candidates who are Oregon law school graduates; can contribute to the Oregon bar's historically or currently underrepresented membership; and can demonstrate a commitment to advancing immigrant rights.

Applications are available at this link: <https://innovation-law-lab.typeform.com/to/zlaWFljj>.

KEY DATES

Applications Released	10/20/2023
Fellowship Q&A Session (optional)	Thursday, November 2, 2023 at 2 PM PST RSVP here: https://innovation-law-lab.typeform.com/to/VogyQ1VE
Applications due for First Round Consideration	11/17/2023 at midnight
First Round Offers Extended By	12/29/2023
Applications considered on a rolling basis	If submitted after 11/17/2023

Fellowship Start Date	Anticipated Fall 2024; earlier start date may be available for barred candidates
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FELLOWSHIP SUMMARY

Salary	Minimum \$67,500 annually
Term	1 year, with the possibility of renewal for a second year.
Eligibility	Any lawyer with less than 6 years of experience as a licensed attorney; must be a member of the Oregon bar, willing to take the Oregon bar at the next exam, or a member of another state bar. Law students graduating before the fellowship commences who are applying to a state bar will also be considered. Members of the Oregon State Bar or Oregon law school graduates will be given preference in the screening process.

THE WORK PLAN

Each fellow will receive intensive legal training on immigration law, particularly removal defense representation, immigrant rights, and affirmative benefit applications as well as hands-on experience representing clients before federal agencies and the immigration court. Fellows will be employed by Innovation Law Lab and provide direct legal services to immigrant community members at risk of deportation or civic exclusion because of their immigration status. Innovation Law Lab will provide the fellows with daily supervision, technical assistance, and mentorship. Fellows will be treated as a cohort and have access to leadership development and networking opportunities. Examples of work that fellows will undertake include: participate in Know Your Rights orientation sessions; provide limited legal assistance to community members; work on a variety of immigration cases, including preparing applications, declarations, and supporting evidence, as well as providing co-representation in immigration interviews, bond hearings, and removal hearings;

participate in on-going legal training and capacity building opportunities as well as regular case rounds sessions with the entire fellowship cohort.

Fellows will work closely with community-based organizations in Oregon. A preference will be given to fellows who can work out of Law Lab's Portland-based office; remote work arrangements may be considered under exceptional circumstances.. Fellows will receive an annual salary of no less than \$67,500 and be provided with a full range of benefits, including employer-paid health insurance, and generous accrued time off and sick leave.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for an Fellowship, an applicant must:

- Have graduated from an accredited law school by June of 2023;
- Be a member of the bar of any state, or be awaiting the results of the February or July 2024 bar exam. Applicants who do not pass a bar exam must commit to retaking the exam in February 2025. Though the fellowship is open to members or future members of the bar of any state, preference may be given to Oregon bar members in the selection process;
- Have no more than six years of work experience as a licensed attorney;
- Demonstrate professional fluency in Spanish or another language commonly spoken by immigrant community members in Oregon;
- Demonstrate, through personal experience, work experience, academic studies, or other experience, a commitment to public interest and social justice lawyering. Applicants who have experience with and a commitment to serving members of the immigrant community are especially encouraged to apply.

If selected, the fellow must:

- Commit to serving a one-year fellowship term;
- If necessary, commit to re-taking the bar examination until bar passage is obtained.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications will be evaluated according to objective criteria including relevant experience, commitment to social justice and immigrant rights, and proficiency in language(s) other than English.

QUESTIONS?

Please email jobs@innovationlawlab.org with any questions.