

# 2019 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 2019. 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: Whom should I include in my list of references?***

A: As part of the application package, you must provide three references with contact information. At least one reference must be a law school, graduate school, or college professor, or another professional from one of your educational institutions. Each reference listed should include the name, title, organization, e-mail address and telephone number of the individual.

***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. Unofficial undergraduate and graduate transcripts sent via e-mail to [Fellowship@fr.com](mailto:Fellowship@fr.com) should be sent along with your application materials. 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 if I also have a recommendation letter I would like to submit?***

A: A letter of recommendation is not required, but you may submit them in addition to the required list of references. Recommendation letters should be e-mailed directly to us from the recommender and sent to [Fellowship@fr.com](mailto:Fellowship@fr.com). Letters must be received by the application deadline.

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

A: We will begin accepting applications for the Fellowship beginning December 1. The review process for the Fellowship will begin as soon as applications are received. Early submissions are strongly encouraged and may be to the benefit of the student. All application materials must be received no later than January 4, 2019. Only complete applications will be considered.

Should you be selected, you will be invited to one of our firmwide interview days, either January 18 in Washington DC or January 25 in Dallas. Interviews on other days will be scheduled on a case-by-case basis.

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: The summer associate program will run for 10 weeks beginning mid-May and ending late July. Diversity Fellows will be expected to participate in the program for a minimum of 8 weeks during the first half of the 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 2019 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 10 weeks of the 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 [Fellowship@fr.com](mailto:Fellowship@fr.com) to learn more about the Fish & Richardson 1L Diversity Fellowship Program.