

Fellowship Opportunity at the National Housing Law Project

The National Housing Law Project (NHLP) is seeking applicants to sponsor for public interest fellowships beginning in fall 2024. This is a unique opportunity to join a passionate and dedicated staff of housing advocates during a critical moment in our nation's history. Already faced with a historic lack of affordable housing, the pandemic heightened the need for all levels of government to implement eviction prevention, housing stability, and affordable housing preservation measures. As a fellow at NHLP, you will help lead the national fight for the rights of tenants through education, collaboration, and collective action. For fellowships beginning in fall 2024, applications are due to NHLP by July 31, 2023.

About NHLP

The National Housing Law Project's mission is to advance housing and racial justice for poor people and communities. We achieve this by strengthening and enforcing the rights of tenants, increasing housing opportunities for underserved communities, and preserving and expanding the nation's supply of safe and affordable homes. Established in 1968, NHLP serves as a legal support and advocacy center to legal services attorneys and affordable housing advocates throughout the country. NHLP's main office is in San Francisco, California with other offices in Washington, D.C. and Richmond, VA. Further information about NHLP is available at www.nhlp.org.

The National Housing Law Project is committed to an environment of inclusion and equitable opportunity for members of the Housing Justice Network, our partner organizations, clients, staff, and board. We seek to hire individuals from diverse backgrounds, especially people with lived experiences impacted by housing insecurity and discrimination, or who have experienced the intersection of multiple systems of discrimination. We actively promote mutual respect, acceptance, appreciation and teamwork across all lines of difference.

Fellowships at NHLP

NHLP encourages newly emerging public interest attorneys and graduating law students who are committed to our broad, substantive focus areas to seek our sponsorship for a post-graduate fellowship. Common funding sources include Equal Justice Works, the Skadden Fellowship Foundation, school-sponsored fellowships, and the Soros Justice Fellowships. Potential fellows must first apply to NHLP for organizational sponsorship before applying to fellowship funding sources.

With a staff of nationally recognized experts in federal housing law, NHLP provides the ideal professional home for the design and implementation of innovative fellowship projects. Fellowships at NHLP have helped to launch the public interest law careers of many dedicated attorneys. Recent NHLP-sponsored fellowship projects have included:

- Implementation and enforcement of federally mandated housing protections for women affected by domestic violence under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA);
- Research and advocacy regarding the intersection between immigrant rights, VAWA housing protections and the impact of nuisance and crime-free ordinances on marginalized groups of people;
- Guaranteeing language access in affordable housing programs; and
- Safeguarding tenants' rights during the roll-out of a federal program aimed at preserving the nation's public housing stock.

Qualifications

The ideal fellowship candidate will have:

- A demonstrated commitment to working with and for low-income and underserved populations;
- Extremely high-caliber legal research and writing skills;
- Substantive experience in housing, economic justice, environmental justice, and/or related issues;
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and as a member of a team;
- Excellent communication skills; and
- Admission, or a plan to seek admission, to a state Bar

Preferred location is NHLP's main office in San Francisco but other locations, including remote work, will be considered.

NHLP is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer. Candidates who would contribute to our diversity are strongly encouraged to apply. Reasonable accommodation is available for qualified individuals with disabilities, upon request.

How to Apply

To apply, please email a cover letter with a brief description of your proposed project, resume, writing sample, and three references to hr@nhlp.org. Applications are due to NHLP by July 31, 2023.

Examples of Possible Fellowship Projects

Depending on the applicant's experience and interests, possible fellowship projects could include:

- **Expanding Tenants Rights in the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Program**
- **Protecting Housing for Domestic and Sexual Violence Survivors**
- **Preserving Public Housing**
- **Expanding Housing Opportunities for People with Criminal Histories**
- **Protecting Housing Rights of LGBTQ Individuals and Families**
- **Environmental Justice and Housing**
- **Preserving Homeownership in Times of Crisis**
- **Expanding Shared Ownership Opportunities**
- **Ensuring Fair Credit Reporting for Tenants**

For more information on the EJW Fellowship Program, please go to www.equaljusticeworks.org.

For more information on the Skadden Fellowship Program, please go to www.skaddenfellowships.org.