

**PUBLIC INTEREST SUBSIDY PROGRAM
FOR GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL**

**J.B. AND MAURICE C. SHAPIRO
PUBLIC SERVICE FELLOWSHIPS
2017- 2018 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**Please submit the original application and four copies to
the Career Development Office (Burns 310) by
Thursday August 3, 2017, by 5:00 PM.**

July 10, 2017

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OVERVIEW OF SHAPIRO PUBLIC SERVICE FELLOWSHIPS

George Washington University Law School, through the generosity of J. B. & Maurice Shapiro Trust, is providing up to \$ 90,000 in tuition remission (up to \$7500 per semester) for law students who work part time for public interest or public sector employers during the 2017-18 academic year. Applications are administered by the Public Interest Committee.

The Law School plans to award twelve Shapiro Fellowships to students who will begin their third year of full time law school course work in the fall of 2017 and/or spring of 2018. These awards are for students providing public interest legal services with government or nonprofit private employers located in the Washington metropolitan area. The Fellows must work 20 hours per week for 12 weeks for either one or two semesters. Unlike the summer Fellowships, students **MAY NOT** receive academic credit under the Outside Placement Program or any clinic for work done for these Fellowships. Recipients of Shapiro Public Service Fellowships are *not* allowed to receive any compensation from their employer nor other public interest subsidies from the George Washington University, although they may receive merit or need-based scholarships from the Law School, as well as public interest subsidies from sources outside the University.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for a Shapiro Public Service Fellowship, students must satisfy the following requirements:

- 1. The student must submit a COMPLETE application (attached), including a resume, a transcript, a completed employer commitment letter, and an essay describing the applicant's interest in public interest work in general and in the specific job in particular. Letters of reference may also be submitted but are not required. NO INCOMPLETE OR LATE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED OR CONSIDERED. NO LATE SUBMISSIONS OF MATERIALS TO SUPPLEMENT TIMELY FILED APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED OR CONSIDERED.**
- 2. The student must be in good academic standing (a cumulative average of at least 3.0) and must have completed their second year by the fall of 2017. Students satisfying these requirements are encouraged to apply. LLM students are not eligible.**
- 3. The student must work for the certifying public interest employer for 12 weeks (20 hours per week) during the fall and/or spring of the 2017-18 academic year. STUDENT WORKING FOR GOVERNMENT AGENCIES ARE ELIGIBLE, BUT PREFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN TO STUDENTS WORKING FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.**
- 4. The student must work under the supervision of a licensed attorney.**
- 5. Because the Award Committee takes into consideration the type of work proposed, a student may not change jobs and keep the Fellowship. If a student must change jobs because of extraordinary circumstances and wishes to keep the Fellowship, the student should immediately contact Dean Alan Morrison (abmorrison@law.gwu.edu).**
- 6. If, because of unforeseen events, a student is unable to work throughout the entire specified period, the student must contact Dean Alan Morrison immediately.**
- 7. A student may not receive any additional compensation from the public interest employer and may not accept any other public service subsidy from George Washington University. The student may receive additional compensation in the form of public interest subsidies from sources outside the University and may also receive merit or need based scholarships from the Law School.**
- 8. Students who receive Shapiro Fellowships MAY NOT obtain academic credit for their work.**

9. This Fellowship requires that the student have at least one remaining semester of law school following the fall of 2017. It is the expectation of the Law School that students receiving these awards will return to the Law School to complete their legal education and will contribute to their fellow students' education by bringing their fall public interest experiences into subsequent law school classroom discussions. If, because of unforeseen circumstances, a student does not return to the law school following the fall semester, the student should contact Dean Alan Morrison and explain what has happened. A decision will be made at that time concerning whether the student may retain the \$7500 tuition remission, based on the student's reasons for leaving the Law School.

10. By December 8, 2017, Fall Shapiro Fellows must submit a completed Employer Certification Form (copy attached) to Rasheen Robinson (rm. B420). Failure to submit a completed form may result in loss of the previously granted tuition remission. The deadline for Spring Shapiro Fellows is April 20, 2018.

11. The tuition remission granted by this Fellowship is not subject to federal income tax. If a student is awarded a Shapiro Fellowship and is also receiving a need-based scholarship, the student is likely to experience a partial reduction in the scholarship in an amount that is not expected to exceed 30%. That is because the receipt of the Fellowship reduces the student's "need" as calculated by the Financial Aid Office and hence reduces the amount of a need-based scholarship.

12. *For students working for government agencies that require a security clearance, it is the responsibility of the student to submit the required paperwork as soon as possible, which may mean submission before the Shapiro awards are made.* Students are also expected to keep an eye on the progress of their clearance application and to make all efforts to assure that the process is completed well before their scheduled start date. If a student's clearance is expected to be delayed beyond the starting date, the student should contact Dean Morrison to discuss the matter. If the student is unable to work because of a delay in obtaining a security clearance, the amount of the Shapiro award may be reduced, or, if the student is unable to work for a substantial period, the award may be rescinded.

EMPLOYER ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND THE DEFINITION OF PUBLIC INTEREST WORK

1. Ordinary judicial clerkships and internships do not qualify for these Fellowships.
2. Fellows must work part time (20 hours per week) throughout the twelve week period during either the fall and/or spring semesters. The employer must be engaged in public interest legal work, including but not limited to: (1) the representation, direct or indirect, of indigent individuals or populations; (2) the representation of interests that would not otherwise be adequately represented; (3) the use of the law to protect the environment, wildlife, and domestic and/or international human rights and civil liberties; (4) the use of the law to alleviate various social, educational, health or economic problems; or (5) the defense or prosecution of those charged with crimes. If you have any questions concerning whether your job qualifies, please submit an application.
3. This definition of public interest is broad enough to include the following:
 - [a] Work for a legal organization whose projects address legal issues of particular concern to indigent individuals. Examples of such employers include Neighborhood Legal Services programs, Legal Aid Society programs, and Bread for the City.
 - [b] Work for a legal organization focusing on the protection of human rights under international law, with a preference for projects involving treaty based or customary international law. Examples of employers include Boat People, S.O.S., International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, and the Kosova Law Center.
 - [c] Work for a legal organization whose goals include the protection and promotion of domestic civil liberties and human rights. Examples of employers include the Lawyers' Committee on Civil Rights and the ACLU Capital Punishment Project.
 - [d] Work for a governmental agency whose focus is to alleviate social, educational, health or economic problems. Examples include the FDIC, the Federal Reserve Board, the Small Business Administration, the Labor Department, the Antitrust Division of the Justice Department, or the Securities and Exchange Commission.
 - [e] Work for a local, state, federal, or international prosecutors' office whose task is to enforce the criminal laws. Such employers include, for example, district attorneys' offices, United States Attorneys' offices, and prosecutorial offices within state attorney general offices, or international organizations, such as the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda.
 - [f] Legal work with public defenders offices.
 - [g] Work for a legal organization whose legal projects focus on issues which significantly impact the legal rights and lives of women and/or children. Examples of employers include the NOW Legal Defense & Education Fund, the Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the Children's Law Center, and organizations protecting battered women and combating domestic violence.
 - [h] Work for a legal organization whose focus is protection of the environment. Preference will be given to employers who deal with issues concerning environmental justice, in particular the protection of indigenous and/or indigent populations from environmental harm. Examples of employers include the Environmental Defense Fund, the Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund, the Environmental Law Institute, the Nature Conservancy, the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights, Conservation International, the Wilderness Society, the Office of Environmental Justice of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Environmental Enforcement Section of the Department of Justice.

- [i] Work for a legal organization whose projects address legal issues of particular concern to the Asian American community. Examples of employers include the Asian Pacific American Law Center of Southern California, the National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium, the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund, the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies, and the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance.
 - [j] Work for a legal organization whose projects address legal issues of particular concern to the African American community. Examples of employers include the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights, the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, and the EEOC.
 - [k] Work for a legal organization whose public interest projects advance social justice for the Hispanic/Latino(a) community through representation, civil or criminal, direct or indirect, of the Hispanic/Latino(a) population. Such employers include, for example, Ayuda, Inc., the Migrant Legal Action Program, the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc., the Mexican American Legal Defense Fund (MALDEF), the Puerto Rican Legal Defense Fund, and the National Council for La Raza.
 - [l] Work for a legal organization whose projects address legal issues of particular concern to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community and/or persons with HIV or AIDS. Examples of employers include ACLU-Lesbian and Gay Rights and HIV/AIDS Project, Human Rights Campaign, Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, and Whitman-Walker Clinic.
 - [m] Work for a legal organization devoted to the advancement of animal welfare and/or the protection of wildlife. Examples include the litigation section of the Humane Society of the United States or the legal branch of the National Wildlife Federation.
4. The employer may be a government, an international organization, or a private, non-profit organization and must be located in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.
 5. The employer must complete and sign the employer commitment letter (attached). *No late employer commitment letters will be accepted or considered.*
 6. Students may apply for either or both semesters, but preferences will be given to fall semester applications and students will not receive awards for both semesters unless there are an insufficient number of qualified students who have not received an award for one semester.

THE SELECTION PROCESS

- 1. Dean Morrison will review the applications and, if needed, add faculty, staff, and/or one student, to form a Committee that will select the recipients of the Fellowships.**

- 2. In making these awards, the Committee will endeavor to identify committed and capable applicants working for a broad range of public interest employers that provide high quality legal services. The deliberations of the Committee with respect to any particular application are confidential. In evaluating the applications, the Committee will consider a wide variety of factors, and determine how much weight to attach to each, including but not limited to the following:**
 - (A). the applicant's demonstrated commitment to and interest in public interest work in general and in the particular public interest area in which the student will be working;**
 - (B). the applicant's grades at the Law School (a 3.0 cumulative average is an absolute requirement);**
 - (C). whether the applicant has received some other public interest subsidy or merit scholarship from the Law School;**
 - (D). the applicant's evidence of leadership, maturity, and responsibility;**
 - (E). the legal skills that the applicant is likely to gain from the particular work proposed;**
 - (F). the proposed job and how that job furthers the objective of serving the public interest;**
 - (G). the reputation of the employer for providing high quality public interest legal services;**
 - (H). the employer's need for additional staff assistance;**
 - (I). the diversity of employers that are offering Fellowship opportunities; and**
 - (J). the proportion of the employer's work devoted to public interest legal representation;**

The Committee will exercise its discretion to determine how much weight is to be accorded to each factor. It is policy of the Committee not to discriminate on the basis of age, sex, disability, race, color, religion, ethnic/national origin, veteran status or sexual orientation in the award of these Fellowships.

TIMETABLE

July 11, 2017	Applications available in the Career Development Resource Library and on line on the Career Development Office's web site. Applications should be completed using a computer, typed or handwritten using black ink.
August 3, 2017	Completed applications (original and four copies) must be returned to the Career Development Office by 5:00 p.m. (No materials submitted after this time will be accepted or considered.)
August 10, 2017	Announcement of awards. (Offer letters and acceptance forms, as well as rejection letters, will be sent by email to the address on the application form. Students also will be informed if they have been selected as an alternate.)
August 15, 2017	Return completed Acceptance Forms in hard copy to Rasheen Robinson (rm. B420).
August 17, 2017	Awards to alternates will be announced by email no later than this date and earlier if possible.
December 8, 2017	Submission of completed Fall Employer Certification Forms to Rasheen Robinson (rm. B420).
April 20, 2018	Submission of completed Spring Employer Certification Forms to Rasheen Robinson (rm. B420).

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If you need additional information, please contact Dean Alan Morrison (abmorrison@law.gwu.edu).

**APPLICATION
GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL
SHAPIRO PUBLIC SERVICE FELLOWSHIPS
2017-18 ACADEMIC YEAR**

PART 1:

1. First Name Last Name M.I.

2. Local Address (Fall):

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3. Summer Address (if different) :

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4. Day Ph.# (Summer):..... Eve. Ph. # (Summer):

Email Address:.....

5. Full-time Student Part-time Student

6. Check applicable period for Fellowship being sought: Fall Spring Both

7. Public Interest Employer for FALL 2017 – NO ACADEMIC CREDIT IS PERMITTED.

Organization:

Address:

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Contact: Phone: Email:

Public Interest Employer for SPRING 2018– NO ACADEMIC CREDIT IS PERMITTED.

Organization:

Address:

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Contact: Phone: Email:

PART II:

1. Previous Public Interest Work Experience

You may answer the following question with an attachment; if you elect to do so, please so indicate below and label your answer on the attachment.

List any previous experience with public interest organizations, private or public, whether providing legal, charitable, civic or other community services, with particular focus on your work at Law School. For each experience, indicate the name and address of the organization, the dates during which you worked, and whether you were paid or worked *pro bono* and/or for academic credit. Please use this section of your application (and/or your personal essay) to indicate how your previous public interest activities are related to your current interest in working for the listed public interest employer. Include a discussion of your *pro bono* work and work with public service student organizations at the Law School.

2. Have you received any other public interest subsidy (whether in the form of a grant, fellowship, Internship, or scholarship) from the George Washington University (including the EJM public interest grant funded by the law school auction) for providing law-related public interest services? If so, describe below the name and purpose of the subsidy, the amount awarded, and the period covered.

3. Have you received in the past and/or do you anticipate receiving a Merit Scholarship during the upcoming academic year? If so, provide the amounts and periods covered.

PART III: APPLICATION, ATTACHMENTS AND COPIES

Please attach the following to your application in the following order:

1. RESUME

2. PERSONAL ESSAY:

You should provide your essay as an attachment; please label your answer on the attachment.

In no more than two or three typed pages, describe your interest in and commitment to public interest work in general. (In explaining your dedication to public service, you may include information concerning personal hardships you have experienced in pursuing public interest opportunities in the past.) Describe in particular your interest in the employment that you have secured for the upcoming academic year. How does this job fit into your long range plans? Why were you interested in this particular organization? What about your past experience or particular skills suggest that you can make a meaningful contribution to the organization? Please add any additional information that might be useful in assessing your application.

3. TRANSCRIPT (official or unofficial)

4. EMPLOYER COMMITMENT LETTER: Use the attached form. It is the your responsibility to ensure that this form is completed by the public interest employer and submitted no later than August 3, 2017. No application will be considered without an employer commitment letter.

5. LETTERS OF REFERENCE: Although not required, you may attach letters of reference from prior employers, professors, or others (including officers of law school public interest organizations).

PART IV: CERTIFICATION

I certify that the information submitted for this Fellowship is true to the best of my knowledge.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

SUBMIT THE ORIGINAL AND FOUR COPIES OF THE APPLICATION TO THE CAREER DEVELOPMENT OFFICE (BURNS 310), NO LATER THAN 5:00 PM ON AUGUST 3, 2017.

prosecutorial work with respect to those charged with crimes; and/or work on other public policy issues or use the law to alleviate social, educational, health or economic problems? If so, explain.

4. Briefly describe the work that the student will be expected to perform. Are there particular reasons why the assistance of a student from George Washington University Law School would be helpful to your organization during the 2017-18 academic year?

5. If the student receives a Shapiro Public Service Fellowship, please confirm that your organization will not provide the student with any *additional* compensation.

This organization will not pay the student for work performed during the 2017-18 academic year.

YES..... NO.....

Supervising Attorney Signature Date

Supervising Attorney Name

Organization

**2017-18 GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL
SHAPIRO PUBLIC SERVICE FELLOWSHIPS
EMPLOYER CERTIFICATION LETTER**

NAME OF STUDENT:

ORGANIZATION:

ADDRESS:

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PHONE:

1. The above-named student has worked at this organization for weeks during the fall or spring of 2017-18 (at least 20 hours per week).

2. This organization has not paid the student for his or her work.

Supervising Attorney Signature **Date**

Supervising Attorney Name

PLEASE ASK YOUR PUBLIC INTEREST EMPLOYER TO COMPLETE AND SIGN THIS FORM IN DECEMBER 2017 (for fall employers) and April 2017 (for spring employers). YOU MUST RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO RASHEEN ROBINSON (RM. B420), BY COB DECEMBER 8, 2017 (FALL), OR APRIL 20, 2018 (SPRING), TO ENSURE THAT TUITION CREDIT IS RETAINED.