

OFFICE OF PUBLIC INTEREST AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Fellowship Planning Timeline

FIRST YEAR

Fall

1. Learn about fellowships: what they are and what types are available
 - Browse OPICS Fellowship Manuals II, Serving the Public Job Search Guide, and/or PSLawNet.org database
2. Begin building a public interest resume
 - Participate in the 1L Pro Bono Project
 - Join a GULC public interest or community service student group
3. Begin thinking about 1L summer
 - Attend World of Choices & other OPICS sponsored programs
 - Attend Equal Justice Works Career Fair
 - Identify public sector alums in the OPICS Alumni Network directory and contact them for career advice.

Spring

1. Meet with OPICS Advisor to discuss summer & public interest career path
2. Conduct 1L summer job/internship search
3. Attend Fellowship Workshop and Information Sessions

Summer

1. Develop as many contacts as possible
2. Develop good relationships with possible references
3. Consider whether summer employer is potential fellowship sponsor
4. Refine interests in subject matter and type of legal work

SECOND YEAR

Fall

1. Begin 2L summer search as soon as ready
 - Link search with future fellowship possibilities
 - Meet with OPICS Advisor to discuss long-term interests, plans
2. Continue building public interest resume
 - Intern, do moot court, participate in other relevant activities
 - Consider clinics open to 2Ls or take required courses for 3L clinics

Spring

1. Finalize 2L summer plans
2. Attend Fellowship Workshop and Information Sessions
3. Talk with prior fellows and fellowship mentors

Summer

1. Sign up for OPICS Fellowship email group
2. Re: Project Fellowships:
 - Crystallize fellowship ideas
 - Educate yourself thoroughly about relevant programs

- (1) Re-read relevant parts of this manual
 - (2) Read all available print information about program
 - (3) Read information on program website
 - (4) Speak with OPICS Advisor
 - (5) Review past applications
 - (6) Contact prior fellows
 - (7) Meet or talk with fellowship mentors
 - (8) Determine application deadlines and procedures
- Contact potential organization sponsors
 - Solidify organization sponsorship as early as possible

THIRD YEAR

Fall

1. Pick up revised copy of OPICS Fellowship Manual Part II
2. Re: Project fellowships
 - Secure organization sponsorship if haven't already
 - Work on applications with fellowship mentors and OPICS advisors
 - Submit applications
3. For staff attorney and clinical fellowships
 - Determine deadlines and application procedures
 - Meet with OPICS Advisor, prior fellows
 - Submit applications
4. If relevant, prepare for interviews
 - Strategize with OPICS advisors, fellowship mentors, prior fellows
 - Set up mock interview
5. Begin thinking about and pursuing non-fellowship public interest options

Spring

1. Apply for staff attorney and clinical fellowships with spring deadlines
2. Continue pursuing non-fellowship public interest options