

2019 ABAWSSF Spring Blossom Fellowship Application

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the Asian Bar Association of Washington Student Scholarship Foundation (ABAW SSF) Spring Blossom Summer Fellowship. This fellowship will provide one \$5,000 summer grant to a law student seeking to work with a nonprofit advocacy organization to advance the legal rights of women and/or immigrants. An applicant must contact a potential employer him or herself, arrange for a potential summer position, and then apply for the fellowship. Thus, applicants should start the process of seeking a summer position as soon as possible.

Funding for the fellowship is made possible by a donation from Lorraine Lee and John Felleisen in partnership with the ABAWSSF, and the first three years of the fellowship will be awarded in the name of, and in honor and memory of, Chun Lan "Spring Blossom" Ng Woo, 1918-2008, an immigrant woman from China who lived her life with integrity, courage and resilience. While the fellowship was inspired by the pressing needs of immigrant women, the criteria for the award of the fellowship is broader. The fellowship is available to students who seek to address the legal needs of women or immigrants, and the sponsoring organization does not need to "specialize" only in issues related to the rights of women and immigrants. Further, the applicant need not work only on issues related to the rights of women and immigrants during the term of the fellowship, as long as some of the applicant's work will involve advancing the rights of women and immigrants. The extent to which the work advances the rights of women or immigrants will be just one factor in awarding the grant.

The following list of work that would qualify for funding is intended to provide examples rather than to narrow the possibilities.

- An effort directed at providing legal assistance for individuals facing discrimination because of their status as women or immigrants.
- An effort seeking to protect or advance the civil rights of women and immigrants.
- Some potential issues might include, for example, work to protect women, including immigrants and women of color, from sexual harassment; efforts to assist immigrants seeking asylum and family reunification and fighting detention or deportation; efforts to address bias in the legal system against women and immigrants; efforts to provide women and immigrants access to necessary health care, public benefits, and the legal system.

Note that completed Application Packets - including a commitment letter completed by your proposed employer - must be returned by email no later than 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 20, 2019. Please contact me (below) if you are unable to obtain a commitment from the employer by this time.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the application or selection process for the fellowship, please feel free to contact me. Best of luck!

Sincerely,

Cindy Yeung
ABAW SSF/Spring Blossom Fellowship Coordinator
yeungcy@seattleu.edu

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ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Student Eligibility

- All 1Ls and 2Ls, and 3L JD (part-time or full-time) students enrolled and in good standing at any of the three Washington law schools may apply for the fellowship. The fellowship will not be open to students who will be graduating in May 2019.
- Grade point average and class rank are not considered in the selection process.
- Credit bearing work (i.e. externships, independent studies, etc.) cannot be funded through this Fellowship.
- **Applicants should have a firm offer from an employer, as well as submit an Employer Profile, at the time the application is due. (Please contact the Fellowship Coordinator if the employer you are working with is unable to provide you a commitment prior to the due date).**

Employer Eligibility

- The potential employer must be able to provide substantive, supervised legal experiences for the applicant.
- **The potential employer must submit an Employer Profile by the February 20th deadline. (Please contact the Fellowship Coordinator if the employer you are working with is unable to provide you a commitment prior to the due date).**
- ABAWSSF will not provide funding for political campaigns.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The recipient of the Fellowship will be selected by a Selection Committee made up of members of the ABAWSSF Board and others they may include. Neither the Fellowship Coordinator nor an employee of any of the Washington law schools will be on the selection committee. The following factors will be considered in awarding the fellowship:

- The applicant's demonstrated commitment to, or interest in, advancing the legal rights of women and/or immigrants.
- The applicant's demonstrated commitment to, or interest in, serving the legal needs of the Asian Pacific American community.
- The proposed employer and the extent to which the employer works to advance the public interest.
- The applicant's job/project and how well that job/project furthers the employer's efforts in advancing the legal rights of women and/or immigrants.
- How well the applicant's proposal will develop his or her legal skills and advance the applicant's professional goals.
- Whether the applicant has received a prior summer fellowship from the ABAWSSF.
- Any other factor(s) that the Selection Committee deems relevant to the selection.
- Grade point average and class rank are not considered in the selection process.

HOW TO APPLY

Each applicant must: 1) complete the Application Information Form, 2) answer three short-answer essay questions, and 3) submit a complete an Employer Profile Form. You must submit your completed application electronically **by 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 20, 2019.**

Final selection of the fellowship recipient will be announced on or about March 1, 2019.

APPLICATION

A completed application consists of three parts:

1. **Applicant Information Form.** Submit the Applicant Information Form electronically to fellowship@abawssf.org as a Microsoft Word Document with the **title in the format of “Last Name – Applicant Info Form.”** In the body of your email, please include your first and last name and your email address.
2. **Personal Statement:** Please provide answers to questions (a) and (b) below, answered in that order. The word limit is *300 words per question*, for a *total word-count not in excess of 600 words*. Your answers should be double-spaced, with 1-inch margins on all sides, in 12 point Times New Roman font. Submit your Personal Statement as a Microsoft Word Document to fellowship@abawssf.org with the **title in the format of “Last Name – PS.”** In the body of your email, please include your first and last name and your email address.

At the top of the first page of your personal statement please indicate the legal category(ies) into which your summer position falls as well as the geographical region that most describes where your organization is located (i.e., Immigration; Seattle).

(a) Please briefly describe the organization for which you will work, how it works to advance the legal rights of women and/or immigrants, the specific work you will be doing (to the best of your knowledge), and why you want to do this work.

(b) How will this position advance your professional goals?

3. **Employer Profile:** Please e-mail the Employer Profile to your employer. You are responsible for obtaining the completed form from your employer and submitting it with the rest of your application materials. Submit the Form as a Microsoft Word document to fellowship@abawssf.org with an electronic signature from your employer. **Title format should be “Last Name – EP.”** In the body of your email, please include your first and last name and your email address.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The award of \$5,000 is provided for full time work (A full-time award is based on a minimum of 350 hours, which can be served, for example, by working 10 weeks at 35 hours/week). Any partial salary the applicant receives from the employer or from other sources (including other types of grant awards) may be subtracted from the maximum award; please notify the Fellowship Coordinator if you will receive funds during the summer from other sources. Applicants proposing to work less than full time (but at least 175 hours) will be considered, but the amount of the grant will be \$5,000.

- The fellowship recipient will be required to write a short article (about 500-750 words) about his or her fellowship work for the ABAWSSF website and provide a photo. Further, the recipient is encouraged to get involved in ABAWSSF and, in particular, assist in encouraging applications for next year's fellowship.
- The potential employer must be able to provide substantive, supervised legal experiences for the applicant. The fellowship will not be awarded for work that does not promote the development of legal skills, such as internships that require the applicant to do photocopying or run errands.
- The fellowship must not be used for employer overhead expenses such as rent, telephones, or supplies.
- Once a fellowship is received, the recipient must contact his/her employer to request that the employer submit an **Acceptance Letter** to the ABAWSSF at the following address: fellowship@abawssf.org. The letter should state (a) that the applicant has accepted the offer of employment, (b) the number of weeks and the number of hours per week that the applicant will work, and (c) the name of the applicant's supervisor.

ABAWSSF Spring Blossom Summer Fellowship Applicant Information Form

Name of Applicant: _____

Local Address _____

Local Phone Number _____

Permanent Address (if different from above) _____

Law school _____]

Current Year in School _____ Anticipated Graduation Date _____

Sponsoring Organization

Organization Name

Organization Address

Organization Phone Number

Contact Person (Name and Title)

Please check all applicable **legal category(ies)** into which your organization falls:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aging/ Elder Law | <input type="checkbox"/> Consumer Protection & Debt | <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal Appeals/Trial |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disability | <input type="checkbox"/> Employment/Farm Worker Rights | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Justice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Law/Domestic Violence | <input type="checkbox"/> Government | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Law |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Immigration | <input type="checkbox"/> International Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Native American/Indian Law | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Benefits | <input type="checkbox"/> Reproductive Justice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veterans | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth/Education Law | <input type="checkbox"/> General Legal Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____ | | |

Please specify all **targeted population(s) or community(ies)** this funding will serve:

Please specify the **geographical region** this funding will serve:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seattle-Tacoma Area | <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Washington | <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Northwest (please specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National (please specify) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> International (please specify) _____ | |

Is your summer work full time/part time? Full-time Part-time Unsure

How much will your employer pay for your summer work? \$_____

Have you applied for financial aid for the summer? _____

Anticipated summer income from other sources (including grants and scholarships): \$_____