



Legal Fellowship – Fall 2021

ABOUT US

Founded in 2003, the Transgender Legal Defense & Educational Fund (TLDEF) is a national organization committed to advancing justice and equity for transgender people through impact litigation, direct legal services, advocacy, and public education. TLDEF's legal program currently includes the Impact Litigation Project, Name Change Project, and Trans Health Project. This year, TLDEF secured a landmark settlement on behalf of our client resulting in one of the nation's strongest jail policies to protect transgender inmates. We also won transgender-inclusive health coverage for an entire industry impacting 350,000 workers and their families. And we're just getting started.

THE OPPORTUNITY

TLDEF is accepting applications from ambitious and dynamic candidates with strong research and writing skills to work alongside our growing legal team. The Fellowship would begin in the Fall of 2021.

This is both an exciting and critical time to work in the transgender movement for full legal equality. TLDEF seeks candidates who will work alongside our growing legal team to act upon the Supreme Court's *Bostock* decision and respond to the intensified economic insecurity found in the transgender community due to COVID-19.

TLDEF will work closely with candidates to develop a proposal for an externally-funded fellowship focused on either the Trans Health Project or the Impact Litigation Project. TLDEF's **Trans Health Project** works to end transgender health exclusions from health plans nationwide, in both the private and the public sectors. Our **Impact Litigation Project** brings litigation challenging laws and policies that discriminate against transgender people and establishing precedents that advance protections.

TLDEF's fellowship program seeks to build a career pipeline for attorneys who are either transgender or who are committed to advancing transgender public interest law. Legal Fellows will participate in all aspects of TLDEF's matters and are guaranteed the opportunity to develop a significant body of written work product in cutting-edge areas of the law and to engage with legal clients and opposing counsel in negotiation and case development.

QUALIFICATIONS & SKILLS

- Graduation from U.S. law school and successful completion of bar examination by no later than Summer 2021;
- Excellent research, writing, analytical skills;
- Commitment to advance the organization's mission;
- Demonstrated interest in legal and political issues related to transgender rights;
- Commitment to actively working in alignment with other social, racial, and economic justice movements;
- Experience with Microsoft Office applications (i.e., Outlook, Word, Excel, Power Point) and other tools, such as Slack, Asana, and Zoom;
- Ability to use legal tools, such as Casetext and Westlaw.

PERSONAL QUALITIES

- Accountable to a tightly-knit team and to a larger community.
- Commitment to being part of a collaborative office culture.

COMPENSATION

The salary for this position is dependent on the terms of the successful applicant's fellowship funding secured externally. TLDEF offers a benefits package that includes 100% employer paid medical, vision, dental, and life insurance; 15 paid holidays; paid time off beginning at three weeks; sick time; and pre-tax commuter benefits.

To Apply

Applicants should email submissions to David Brown at dbrown@transgenderlegal.org. All submissions should include a resume, transcript (unofficial is acceptable), cover letter outlining the proposal that they seek to



develop and the funders to whom they intend to present it, and writing sample of no more than ten pages. The email should have the subject line “Legal fellowship application.” Generally, TLDEF will contact applicants within a few days to schedule an introductory meeting and to discuss developing their proposal in further detail and any funder-specific issues. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis, but applicants should leave enough time to develop their proposal before it is due to their potential funders. This typically takes several weeks.

TLDEF is an equal opportunity employer. Black, Indigenous, and People of color; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex people; women; and people with disabilities, including those living with HIV, are all strongly encouraged to apply.