CALL FOR FELLOWSHIP APPLICANTS

ABOUT PUBLIC COUNSEL

Public Counsel is the nation’s largest provider of pro bono legal services. Founded in 1970, it is dedicated to advancing equal justice under law and addressing economic, racial, social, and other inequities by delivering free legal and social services to the most vulnerable members of our community. Public Counsel operates eight legal projects: Children’s Rights, Community Development, Consumer Rights & Economic Justice, Homelessness Prevention, Immigrants’ Rights, Veterans’ Rights, the Audrey Irmas Project for Women & Girls’ Rights, and our impact litigation project, Opportunity Under Law.

Public Counsel has a full-time staff of over 130. We are committed to building a diverse staff and encourage applications from people of color, people with disabilities, and people of all gender identities, gender expressions, and sexualities.

ABOUT OUR IMMIGRANTS’ RIGHTS PROJECT

Public Counsel’s Immigrants’ Rights Project (IRP), envisions a world where all (im)migrants live with dignity, power, and opportunity. Staffed by approximately 25 attorneys, administrative staff, and social workers, IRP provides direct legal representation to non-citizens seeking asylum, special immigrant juvenile status, VAWA, T and U visas, and other relief in immigration court. In addition to direct representation, IRP engages in advocacy at the local and national levels, represents detained immigrants, recruits, trains, and mentors hundreds of pro bono attorneys each year, handles appeals before the Board of Immigration Appeals, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and California Court of Appeal, and conducts impact litigation. For more than 30 years, IRP has been at the forefront of protecting the rights of immigrants in Los Angeles.

For this cycle, Public Counsel’s IRP seeks applicants to partner on a fellowship application in the areas of notario fraud (the unauthorized practice of immigration law), special immigrant juvenile status, workplace crimes, labor trafficking in the street vendor community, deported veterans or another topic that otherwise seeks to advance the rights of immigrants. We are also open to considering projects that involve collaboration with Public Counsel’s Center for Veterans Advancement, Women & Girls’ Project, or Consumer Rights & Economic Justice Project.

JOB SUMMARY

Applications for those proposing Equal Justice Works or Skadden fellowship projects to begin in fall 2024 should be submitted by July 1, 2023. Applications for those proposing
other fellowship projects to begin in fall 2024 should be submitted as soon as possible and will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

Students who are interested in a fellowship with the Immigrants’ Rights Project should send their resume and cover letter that includes a brief description of their proposal to Directing Attorney Gina Amato at gamato@publiccounsel.org.

We value lived experiences, cultural competency, and experiences working with traditionally underrepresented communities and historically oppressed groups across a range of settings. Please discuss such experiences in your cover letter, especially if they are not reflected in your resume.

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More information on the Immigrants’ Rights Project can be found here, and more information on Public Counsel’s fellowship process can be found here.