



The Southern California Affiliate of The Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law

## CALL FOR SKADDEN, EQUAL JUSTICE WORKS (EJW), JUSTICE CATALYST (JC), AND OTHER FELLOWSHIP APPLICANTS

Public Counsel's impact litigation project, Opportunity Under Law (OUL), is seeking to host recent or future law graduates for Skadden, EJW, JC, school-based, or other fellowships to begin in Fall 2025.

### ABOUT OPPORTUNITY UNDER LAW

Located in Los Angeles, California, Public Counsel (PC) is the largest pro bono public interest law firm in the country. OUL combats economic injustice in all its forms using a unique model of community-based, strategic campaigns combining impact litigation, organizing, and communications. These campaigns impact large groups of people within California and nationwide and address structural inequities and discrimination on the basis of race, wealth, disability, gender, and/or immigration status.

Novel, high-profile civil rights issues addressed by OUL have included DACA rescission ([\*Garcia v. United States\*](#)); education inequities related to COVID ([\*Cayla J. v. State of California\*](#)), standardized testing ([\*Smith v. Regents of the University of California\*](#)), and access to literacy ([\*Gary B. v Whitmer\*](#)); trauma healthcare for families separated at the border ([\*Ms. J.P. v. Sessions\*](#)), children in foster care ([\*Kevin S. v Blalock\*](#)), and Native American students ([\*Stephen C. v. Bureau of Indian Education\*](#)); and Native American voting rights ([\*Lower Broule Sioux Tribe v. Lyman County\*](#)).

OUL's most active cases currently target the foster care-to-homelessness pipeline ([\*Ocean S. v. Los Angeles County\*](#)), veteran homelessness ([\*Powers v. McDonough\*](#)), and Critical Race Theory bans ([\*Mae M. v. Komrosky\*](#)), among many others. For more information on OUL's past and present work, visit <https://publiccounsel.org/programs/opportunity-under-law/>.

### PROJECTS

OUL particularly welcomes projects that extend their novel legal theories. For instance, recent successful proposals have addressed anti-racist education ([\*IntegrateNYC v. New York\*](#)) and [early childhood trauma](#). Priority areas for 2025 include combatting homelessness, education equity, rights for Native American youth, and the rights of children, youth, and families entangled in the dependency system. Candidates may have the opportunity to assist on other active cases (within fellowship requirements) and/or non-litigation advocacy such as settlement monitoring and/or legislative advocacy.

### INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

If interested in pursuing a fellowship with OUL, please send a cover letter (with a very brief description of your proposed project, if applicable), CV, list of references, and writing sample to Suzanne Castillo at [scastillo@publiccounsel.org](mailto:scastillo@publiccounsel.org). A project proposal need only identify the problem(s) the prospective fellow hopes to address; OUL Staff will work with selected candidate(s) to identify and/or further develop their proposals for submission, in alignment with current OUL priorities. OUL values lived experience, 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 CV. OUL will consider proposals for hybrid, remote, or in-person fellowships.

**Applications should be submitted by July 1, 2024, for the Skadden and EJW fellowships.** All other fellowships, including school-based fellowships, will be reviewed on a rolling basis, subject to each fellowship deadline. Any questions may be emailed to Suzanne Castillo.