

Columbia Law School Announces Its 2017-2018 Human Rights LL.M. Fellowship



Columbia Law School is pleased to announce its 2017-2018 Human Rights LL.M. Fellowship Program for individuals with extraordinary potential in the field of international human rights. The Fellowship is designed to support students pursuing an LL.M. degree at Columbia who show exceptional commitment and potential to use their education to become innovators and leaders in human rights practice and/or academia.

The Human Rights LL.M. Fellowship is jointly coordinated by Columbia Law School's Human Rights Institute (the focal point of human rights work, education, critical reflection, and scholarship at the Law School) and the Office of Graduate Legal Studies (which manages the School's LL.M. and J.S.D. Programs). Fellowships offer partial to full waivers of tuition and in some cases, a living stipend, depending on the applicant's demonstrated level of financial need.

LL.M. Human Rights Fellows will receive tailored skills and career mentoring in both practice and academic scholarship from Human Rights Institute faculty, staff, and advisors; be invited to special events with leading human rights advocates and scholars; and be afforded the opportunity to participate in the Human Rights Institute's cutting-edge research projects. Fellows will also be given special consideration for admission to Columbia's Human Rights Clinic, an innovative course in which students learn to be strategic, creative, and critical human rights advocates while pursuing social justice in partnership with civil society and communities and while advancing human rights methodologies and scholarship. Fellows are expected to devote a significant part of their studies to human rights and to take an active part in the Law School's vibrant human rights community.

Applicants must demonstrate experience in international human rights and a commitment to a career in the field, whether in academia and/or human rights practice. Candidates from Africa, Asia, and Latin America and candidates who face impediments to education and leadership because of their race, ethnicity, religion, socio-economic background, gender, or sexual orientation are strongly encouraged to apply.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

To be eligible for the Human Rights LL.M. Fellowship, applicants must first meet the [admission criteria](#) and be admitted to the LL.M. Program at Columbia Law School.

A complete Human Rights LL.M. Fellowship Application consists of:

1. A completed application for admission to the LL.M. Program, including the next three components, submitted through [LSAC](#);
2. A separate, short essay of one to two pages, describing the applicant's qualifications for the fellowship. The applicant should discuss her or his current and previous human rights work, interest in and commitment to the field, career goals, and human rights vision;
3. Letters of Recommendation that speak to the applicant's prior work and future potential as a human rights advocate, scholar, and/or practitioner. The two letters of recommendation submitted for the LL.M. application may also be used for the Fellowship if they both comment on the applicant's human rights work and commitment. In the case that one or both of the letters of recommendation for the LL.M. Program application do not speak to the human rights aspects of the applicant's background and future interests, the applicant may submit a third letter of recommendation from a professor or human rights practitioner who can comment knowledgeably about her or his human rights commitment, experience, and future plans; and
4. A completed Application for Financial Assistance. In providing a candid picture of her or his financial resources, the applicant enables the selection committee to determine the appropriate level of assistance to provide to each Fellow and to maximize the number of Fellowships we can award each year.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: December 15, 2016

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Office of Graduate Legal Studies | Columbia Law School | 435 West 116th Street, MC 4036 | New York, NY 10027
 PHONE 212-854-2655 | EMAIL gls@law.columbia.edu | WEB law.columbia.edu/admissions/llm-program