



2025-2026 GRUBER FELLOWSHIPS IN GLOBAL JUSTICE AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Yale Law School is pleased to invite applications for the Gruber Fellowships in Global Justice and Women's Rights. Each year, the Gruber Program in Global Justice and Women's Rights awards a number of post-graduate fellowships to Yale graduates. Fellows spend one year working on projects that promote global justice or women's rights. Applicants design and propose their own projects in collaboration with a host organization anywhere in the world. These fellowships are open to all Yale professional and graduate schools.

Terms of the Fellowship

Yale graduate and professional students in their final year and alumni of Yale graduate and professional schools (**within three years of graduation**) are eligible to apply. Fellows will receive a stipend of **\$50,000** for a 12-month placement, and airfare for one round-trip economy class ticket from the United States to an international placement (**up to \$2,000**). Host organizations are expected to cover health insurance; if this is not possible, the Program will reimburse the Fellow up to **\$5,000** for health insurance expenses.

The term of the fellowship is one year (12 months), beginning in late summer or fall 2025 through summer 2026. Fellowships are open to both US and non-US citizens. Importantly, applicants are responsible for researching and complying with all applicable immigration and visa requirements for the prospective host country.

Lastly, the host organization must certify compliance with Yale Law School's nondiscrimination policy. For instructions on confirming organization compliance, please see here.

Completed applications must be submitted directly to the common application at <https://yale.communityforce.com> by no later than Monday, February 3, 2025. Please carefully review and follow the submission instructions detailed below.

We strongly advise an early start on developing your Gruber Fellowship application. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

PREPARING YOUR PROPOSAL – SUGGESTED TIMELINE:

If you are applying for the 2025-2026 Fellowship:

Spring 2024: If at all possible, attend an information session on campus. Please see the Gruber Fellowships website for the list of campus info sessions. Start researching potential host organizations and proposals. It is *never* too early!

September/October 2024: If you have not attended a spring session, attend a fall information session on campus. Please see the Gruber Fellowships website for the list of campus info sessions.

October/December 2024: As early as possible, schedule a preliminary appointment to discuss your project proposal with Mindy Jane Roseman, Director of the Gruber Program. These meetings are designed to assist you in strengthening your proposal. To schedule a meeting with Mindy, please contact Aleksandra Kopacz (aleksandra.kopacz@yale.edu). If you are not on campus, a phone or zoom call can be arranged. At least a day before your meeting, please submit to Mindy a draft of your proposal so that she may review it and provide constructive feedback.

January 2025:

- Line up your letters of recommendation and confirm that they have been submitted directly to the common application.
- Coordinate the host organization letter of support.
- Finalize all other elements of your application, including proposal, personal statement, resume, and transcript and submit them to the common application.

On or before February 3, 2025: Submit final, complete application, following instructions outlined below. A tip to avoid a last-minute scramble: Make sure to ask your recommenders to submit their letters of recommendation in advance of the deadline.

If you are thinking ahead to the next application cycle (i.e., a 2026-2027 fellowship):

March/April 2025: Attend an information session on campus. Please see the Gruber Fellowships website for list of campus info sessions; the spring semester info session calendar will be posted in early March.

Summer break 2025: Research and contact prospective host organizations in fields and countries of interest to you. Ideally, decide on your host organization and, in collaboration with that organization, develop preliminary proposal and fellowship plan. Line up your letters of recommendation.

June/November 2025: Set up initial appointment with Mindy Jane Roseman, Director of the Gruber Program, to discuss project ideas. If you are not on campus, a phone/skype call can be arranged. Plan to submit at least one draft of your proposal in advance of the meeting for review and feedback. To schedule a meeting, please contact Aleksandra Kopacz (aleksandra.kopacz@yale.edu).

January 2026: Finalize and submit application materials in advance of the established deadline. Confirm that letters of recommendation have been submitted directly and before the deadline.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY:

Complete applications must be received no later than Monday, February 3, 2025. Please email all materials to the common application at <https://yale.communityforce.com>

APPLICATION SHOULD INCLUDE:

- 1. A proposed plan for the fellowship year. (Word limit: 1,500)**

The plan must include one of the following:

- (a) a proposal for a project designed by the applicant in partnership with a sponsoring organization; or
- (b) a proposal to work on an existing project with a host organization.

The proposal should address the need for the project, how the project will promote women's rights and/or global justice (e.g., contributing to the rule of law, human rights, or the promotion of justice in the legal systems), and how the project will be accomplished within the fellowship year. Of course, throughout your application, demonstrate why your experience and interests make you a good fit for this project.

SUGGESTED FORMAT – use sub-headings for the below sections, as appropriate:

(i) **Abstract.** A one sentence description of your project.

(ii) **Overview.** Start with an overview paragraph that concisely sets forth the gist of your proposal (e.g., prospective host organization, country/location, nature of work). (Suggested length: 3-5 sentences)

(iii) **Background.** Provide background on the issue(s) and the type of work your proposal seeks to address. What makes this a significant issue/set of issues? Is there a particular urgency? How does your project relate to and advance global justice and/or women's rights? (Suggested length: 2-3 paragraphs, depending on your topic and extent of explanation needed.)

Wherever it fits for your proposal (e.g., under “background” or “work plan”– or as a separate, brief sub-section), explain why your host organization is an appropriate placement to carry out your project.

(iv) **Work plan.** Describe the actual work you will do – more specifically, set forth any deliverables or projects you plan to complete during your fellowship year. Describe your role within the organization – to whom will you report? With whom will you be interfacing, collaborating and meeting?

(v) **Timeline.** If relevant, include a general timeline to complete your project. The idea here is to demonstrate that you and your host organization have given thought to how your fellowship time will be spent, and what objectives/projects are realistic during that timeframe.

Please indicate your word count at the end of the document.

2. A letter of support from sponsoring organization or supervisor, including:

- (a) a general statement of purpose and mission;
- (b) its interest in and commitment to the project, and the need for Gruber Fellowship funding to carry out the project;
- (c) the fellow's immediate supervisor and plans for supervision;
- (d) the resources that will be provided to support the project (e.g., office space, computer, malpractice and/or other insurance); and

(e) a statement addressing the potential for the organization to retain the fellow as a full-time member of the organization's staff beyond the fellowship year. NOTE: Post-fellowship retention is not a requirement.

3. A brief “personal statement” describing the applicant's experiences with and commitment to global justice and/or women's rights, aspirations for future work in these areas, and the ways in which the Gruber Fellowship will help achieve the applicant's aspirations. *Please limit to 500 words; please indicate your word count at the end of the document.*

4. Three letters of recommendation.

For current students, at least two recommendation letters must be Yale faculty. Alumni must include at least one Yale faculty recommendation and at least one letter of recommendation from a current or former employer. Recommendations should be submitted directly to the common application. *Applicants should confirm directly with their recommenders that letters have been submitted in advance of the deadline.*

5. A resume or curriculum vitae.

6. A current Yale transcript and transcripts from other programs from which the applicant has received a post-graduate degree. Unofficial transcripts are acceptable. Please do not submit your undergraduate transcripts.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Who is eligible to apply?

A. Yale graduate and professional students and recent alumni of Yale graduate and professional schools (within three years of graduation) are eligible to apply.

Q. Can my project be research for my dissertation/book project/grant?

A. No. Gruber Fellowships are not meant for research or academic papers, but for practical projects that will promote women's rights or global justice.

Q. Must projects address both global justice and women's rights?

A. No. Projects can focus on women's rights OR global justice OR both.

Q. What is meant by “global justice”?

A. While it is impossible to articulate a precise definition of global justice, such projects may include the promotion of the rule of law, human rights, rights advocacy, social justice, and policy reform. Projects that have transnational impact and/or policy-related implications are of particular interest. Applicants may refer to the Gruber Fellowship website for brief descriptions of prior fellowship projects.

Q. What is meant by “women's rights”?

A. Women's rights is interpreted broadly for purposes of these fellowship applications. Proposals may include projects that address problems which disproportionately or uniquely pose challenges for women

in a given community or population (*e.g.*, climate change, access to water, maternal health care). Applicants may refer to the Gruber Fellowship website for brief descriptions of prior fellowship projects.

Q. *Must the projects be international?*

A. Women's rights projects can be domestic or international. Global justice projects should address justice issues beyond the United States borders. As noted above, projects that have transnational impact and/or policy-related implications are of particular interest.

Q. *Can I start my own organization or work on a project solo?*

A. No. Because Gruber Fellowships are only for one year, projects are more likely to be successful when they are embedded in and supported by an established organization.

Additional contacts for advice about Gruber Fellowship projects and proposals:

Law School: Mindy Jane Roseman, Director of International Law Programs and the Gruber Program for Global Justice and Women's Rights (mindy.roseman@yale.edu)

Jackson Institute for Global Affairs: Elizabeth Gill, Director, Career Services (elizabeth.gill@yale.edu)

Yale School of the Environmental: Kathy Douglas, Senior Associate Director, Career and Professional Development Office (kathy.douglas@yale.edu)

School of Public Health: Felicia Spencer, Director of Career Services (felicia.spencer@yale.edu)

Divinity School: Kit Heeley, Director of Student Life (osa.yds@yale.edu)

School of Management: Stephanie Double, Associate Director, Employer Partnerships Manager (stephanie.double@yale.edu)

Medical School: Nancy Angoff, Associate Dean of Student Affairs (nancy.angoff@yale.edu)

School of Nursing: Patricia Ryan-Krause, Associate Professor and Interim Director in International Programs (partircia.ryan-krause@yale.edu)

School of Drama: Chantal Rodriguez, Associate Dean, Professor (Adjunct) in Dramaturgy and Dramatic Criticism (chantal.rodriguez@yale.edu)