National Yale Public Interest Fellowship

Yale Law School is pleased to announce a one-time project-based Public Interest Law Fellowship for 2018-2019 open to graduating law students and recent graduates (last three years) from an accredited U.S. law school. The goal of the fellowship is to encourage and support new lawyers seeking to work in the public interest. The fellowship provides a one-year stipend of $47,500 and a health-care contribution of up to $5,000 in situations where health care benefits are not provided by the host organization. Fellows are expected to begin in the summer or fall of 2018.

The fellowship is intended to support projects serving the underrepresented and disadvantaged and is open to proposals in a wide range of substantive areas of law. Proposals will be accepted for a legal project: a) designed by the applicant in partnership with a sponsoring organization; b) to work on an existing project with a host organization; c) to work as a staff attorney at a public interest organization; and d) to work for a foreign or international court in an unpaid internship.

Interested applicants should submit the following materials by March 16, 2018 to ylspifellowships@yale.edu:

1) a concise one paragraph summary of the proposed project;
2) a personal statement of interest no longer than 500 words, describing the applicant’s experiences with and commitment to public interest and the ways in which the fellowship would help achieve the applicant’s long-term goals;
3) a detailed project proposal of no more than 1,500 words, describing the need for the proposed project, its potential impact, and the capacity of both the applicant and the sponsoring organization to implement the proposal in the fellowship year;
4) a letter of support from the host organization, detailing the organization’s purpose, a description of how the applicant’s proposed work fits with the host organization’s work, and a description of the supervision the applicant will receive;
5) up to three letters of recommendation, preferably including at least one from a legal employer or supervisor, and one from a clinical or academic professor;
6) an unofficial transcript; and
7) a resume.

Decisions are expected by the end of March.