

The 2024-2026 Non-Capital Diversity Fellowship Program application period is open!

The application period will close on December 11, 2023.

Non-Capital Fellows will be selected by April 2024 and begin September 2024.

Learn more and apply at: diversityfellowship.fd.org

About the Diversity Fellowship Program

The Fellowship Program will seek to enhance the quality of representation provided under the Criminal Justice Act (CJA) by creating a pipeline of diverse attorneys qualified to join Federal Defender Organizations or CJA panels.

Diversity among CJA counsel supports the cultural competency necessary to meet the needs of a diverse clientele and can lead to better case outcomes by fostering greater trust on the part of CJA clients.

The Non-Capital Fellowship Program will place 12 fellows in Federal Defender host offices across the country for two years, during which fellows will gain federal criminal defense training and experience to allow them to represent clients in non-capital CJA cases. Fellows will matriculate as a class. Each class will have a number of opportunities for joint training, mentorship, and other group activities. Fellows will receive a salary and benefits. The salary range for non-capital fellows will be the Judiciary Salary Plan (JSP) 11/1, 12/1, or 13/1, depending on experience, which is comparable to the federal General Schedule (GS) pay scale. The salary will also reflect locality adjustments.



Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building, Washington, DC



About Federal Defender Organizations

Skilled collaboration, strategic litigation, compassionate representation, and unique approaches to the issues affecting our clients are among the values we aim to foster in federal defenders and CJA panel attorneys. Because no single

person can do this work alone, you will work with experienced lawyers, mitigation specialists, paralegals, investigators, and administrative support staff.

About Defender Services:

<https://www.uscourts.gov/services-forms/defender-services>

Hear from assistant federal defenders about their work:

<https://youtu.be/TL5mP4RvU0A>

Applicants

The Diversity Fellowship Program is open to 3L and 4L students graduating this school year (2023-2024) and recent law school graduates. A successful Fellow must be a talented advocate and legal writer, possess research skills, be team oriented, and be committed to public defense or related public interest law work.

Diversifying the federal defense bar

Enhancing the quality of federal public defense representation

12 non-capital fellowship placements for 2-year terms

Partnering with Federal Defender host offices across the U. S.

Training a new generation of federal defenders

JSP 11/1 – 13/1 salary range, commensurate with experience

For information, please contact:

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