

International Tribunals

Court of Justice of the European Union (curia.europa.eu/)

The Court of Justice of the European Union, located in Luxembourg, presides over cases involving European Community law. It consists of three courts: the Court of Justice, the General Court, and the Civil Service Tribunal.

Dean Acheson Legal Stage Program: The Dean Acheson Legal Stage Program allows for a limited number of graduates from U.S. law schools to work as stagiaires (assistants) at the Court of Justice and the General Court for a three-month term in the fall or spring. Applicants should have completed three years of law school and have a knowledge of European Community Law. Some knowledge of French is also required. The program is only open to U.S. citizens.

Inter-American Court of Human Rights (www.corteidh.or.cr)

The Inter-American Court of Human Rights, located in Costa Rica, is charged with applying and interpreting the American Convention on Human Rights and is recognized by 20 countries in Central and South America.

Internships and Visiting Professionals Program: Internships and visiting professional opportunities with the court last for a minimum of four months. Applicants must have a demonstrated interest in human rights, have strong oral and written communication skills, and be fluent in Spanish.

International Court of Justice (www.icj-cij.org)

The International Court of Justice, located in The Hague, functions as the primary judicial organ of the United Nations. It decides disputes that are submitted to it by member states and also issues advisory opinions on legal questions.

Judicial Fellows Programme: The ICJ has a formal traineeship program, with individual judges, which is available to students and recent graduates of law schools around the world that commit to providing financial support to their candidates. The program has a ten-month term, typically September – June. The program is open to JD and LLM students and graduates and requires proficiency in either French or English, ideally with a good working knowledge of the other language. Applicants must have a demonstrated interest in public international law and be nominated by their law school.

International Criminal Court (www.icc-cpi.int)

The International Criminal Court, located in The Hague, is a permanent, treaty-based international criminal court established to address genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, among other grave international crimes.

Internships and Visiting Professionals: The ICC offers internships (three to six months in length) and visiting professional opportunities (one to six months in length). To qualify for a visiting professional position, candidates must be professionals in their field and have a minimum of three years of relevant full-time professional experience. Knowledge of English or French is required and knowledge of the other official languages of the court (Arabic, Chinese, Russian, and Spanish) is an asset.

Permanent Court of Arbitration (www.pca-cpa.org)

The Permanent Court of Arbitration, located in The Hague, resolves disputes between states, intergovernmental organizations, and private parties.

Internships: The PCA offers internships for law students and recent graduates interested in gaining experience in international arbitration. Internships last for three months. Fluency in either English or French is required and proficiency in Chinese, Arabic, Spanish and Russian are an advantage.

National Courts

Supreme Court of Israel (www.court.gov.il)

The Supreme Court of Israel, located in Jerusalem, is the highest court in Israel.

Clerkships: Clerkships last a minimum of three months and there are no citizenship requirements or language requirements other than English. Preference is given to law students who are in their second year of law school or later. Clerks are assigned to a specific Justice.

Constitutional Court of South Africa (www.concourt.org.za/)

The Constitutional Court of South Africa, located in Johannesburg, is the highest court in South Africa on constitutional matters. Its jurisdiction is limited to constitutional matters and issues connected with decisions on constitutional matters.

Clerkships: Each judge has two South African law clerks and may also have a foreign clerk. Clerks must be in their third year of law school or have already graduated. Clerks may serve for six to twelve months.

Supreme Court for the Republic of Palau (palasupremecourt.net/)

The Republic of Palau is a tropical island nation in Micronesia. The Supreme Court is the highest court in Palau and is divided into a Trial Division and an Appellate Division.

Court Counsel: Court Counsel positions are for a one-year term with an option to renew for another year. Start dates may be available in both the summer and fall. Prior judicial clerkship experience is preferred. The positions are paid.

GEORGETOWN LAW JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS



2025-2026 Judicial Fellowship Program Application

Georgetown Law's Judicial Fellowship Program (JFP) is designed to provide financial support for 2025 JD graduates who have secured unpaid, post-graduate judicial clerkship positions.

Graduates awarded JFP funding are eligible to receive awards (up to \$12,500 per quarter) while they are actively volunteering in a qualifying clerkship role from July 2025 through August 2026. Each JFP recipient may be awarded a maximum of one year, or a total of four quarters, of funding totaling up to \$50,000. All funding for the 2025-2026 JFP year ends in August 2026, so funding for participants beginning their volunteer positions after September 2025 will be prorated accordingly. Awards will be distributed quarterly, with eligibility contingent upon the recipient's continued participation in the clerkship.

ELIGIBILITY

To apply for a JFP award, applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Candidates must be JD students who will complete their degree no later than July 2025. (LLM students and students enrolled in a joint degree program in which their JD will not be conferred by July 2025 are not eligible for this program term.)
- Candidates will have secured a qualifying volunteer clerkship with a federal, state, local or international court or tribunal for which they anticipate volunteering for a 9-12 month term. In some instances, opportunities with shorter terms may be considered.
- Candidates must be able to attest that they are volunteering for the court or tribunal because the respective court or tribunal is unable to offer a salary due to employment policies restricting payment and/or a budgetary inability to provide a salary.
- Candidates must be able to attest that their volunteer work is work for which bar admission is traditionally required or for which a JD is a preferred qualification.
- Candidates must attest that they will be able to secure the necessary Visa status to volunteer outside of the United States and/or that they will enroll in OPT, if required, when volunteering in the United States.

APPLICATION MATERIALS

To be considered for a JFP award, candidates must submit the following materials:

- A current professional resume;
- A personal statement (no more than one page in length) which details the candidate's interest in the clerkship as well as how this particular clerkship aligns with and/or advances the candidate's long-term career goals;
- A letter of support from the host court or tribunal which at a minimum identifies the expected dates of the judicial fellowship, provides a description of the judicial fellow's duties; and acknowledges the host's compliance with all applicable laws (a letter of support template form can be [found here](#));
- A list of two or three professional references who can speak to your interest in clerking and/or to your long-term career goals; and,
- A statement addressing the need for financial support which should address why the host is unable to provide a salary, what financial support (i.e., benefits, travel stipend) the host is able to provide (if any), and whether the candidate has secured any financial support for third-party funders for this volunteer clerkship.

Application materials should be submitted via email to Michele Hoff (mh1845@georgetown.edu) by **Tuesday, April 1, 2025**. (Note: candidates who are not able to supply a detailed letter of support from their host court or tribunal by this date can provide an offer letter in its place. The formal letter of support will need to be provided before funding can be awarded.) Applications submitted after the stated priority deadline may be reviewed if funding remains available.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The JFP selection committee intends to announce award recipients by late April 2025.

In the selection process, priority may be given to candidates who have secured volunteer clerkships with longer terms, whose volunteer clerkships will be completed in international locations, and/or whose volunteer clerkships have been secured through an established Georgetown Law pipeline program.

The JFP selection committee is not obligated to award the maximum number of awards available in any application year. Additionally, the JFP selection committee may not be able to award funding to all eligible candidates in any particular cycle. Those candidates who do not receive JFP funding may be eligible to apply for [EIP funding](#) for their volunteer clerkship. Those candidates who receive JFP awards are not eligible for any additional funding from Georgetown.

Candidates engaged in partisan political campaign activity (e.g., tasks in any way related to a political campaign or political action committee) or lobbying are not eligible for JFP awards.

Any questions about the JFP application process should be directed to Michele Hoff at mh1845@georgetown.edu.