

## **CALL FOR FELLOWSHIP APPLICANTS – ACLU OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (ACLU-DC) DUNN FELLOWSHIP**

The ACLU-DC seeks a law student or recent law graduate for a full-time, two-year fellowship to begin in fall 2020.

The ACLU-DC is an affiliate office of the American Civil Liberties Union, a national nonprofit organization devoted to the protection of civil liberties and civil rights through litigation, legislation, and public education. The ACLU-DC works primarily on issues that directly impact people who live in, work in, and visit the District of Columbia, and also on challenges to certain federal government policies and practices where they fall within the jurisdiction of the D.C. federal courts.

Among the matters currently on our docket are: representing Black Lives Matter-DC in challenging the failure of D.C. police to comply with a D.C. law requiring collection of comprehensive data, including on subjects' race and ethnicity, about all police stops in D.C.; a pending lawsuit over mass arrests, excessive uses of force, and unlawful conditions of confinement imposed by D.C. police on demonstrators, journalists, and legal observers on Inauguration Day 2017; negotiating with the D.C. Department of Public Works to obtain a reasonable accommodation for an employee who uses medical marijuana off duty to treat a disabling medical condition; and suing the administrative arm of the federal judiciary to enjoin new rules that would prohibit more than 1,000 federal employees from expressing their views publicly about partisan candidates for office. To learn more about our work, visit [acludc.org](http://acludc.org).

### **NATURE OF FELLOWSHIP**

We seek an attorney who has a passion for defending civil rights and civil liberties and is committed to serving the public interest. The Dunn Fellow will work full-time in the ACLU-DC Legal Department under the supervision of experienced civil rights litigators, who are deeply committed to providing comprehensive feedback and mentorship. Primary responsibilities include interviewing witnesses and potential clients; conducting legal research in support of both litigation and policy initiatives; investigating potential cases including through public records requests; taking and responding to discovery; and drafting complaints, motions, and other litigation documents. The Fellow will also support the Policy Department as a part of the ACLU-DC's integrated advocacy, particularly where bills before the D.C. Council relate to current or potential ACLU-DC litigation.

Past legal fellows have had the opportunity to develop their own cases and serve as lead counsel, testify before the D.C. Council, conduct Know Your Rights trainings, take depositions, argue in court, and speak on behalf of the ACLU-DC to national and local media outlets.



AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION  
FOUNDATION

District  
of Columbia

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Washington, D.C. 20005  
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[acludc.org](http://acludc.org)

The salary for this position is \$52,000 per year. Benefits currently provided to all ACLU-DC employees include employer-paid health insurance, vacation and sick leave, and 401(k) availability with employer match.

### QUALIFICATIONS

- You will have obtained a J.D. by fall 2020.
- You have excellent work ethic, including dependability, diligence, the ability to take ownership over projects, and the commitment to see projects through to completion in a fast-paced, collaborative environment.
- You are receptive to feedback, enthusiastic about learning and self-improvement, and eager to incorporate feedback into future work.
- You have excellent legal research skills, including the judgment to discern what cases are relevant to a particular research question, and thoroughness in covering the question asked.
- You have the capacity to engage in thoughtful and perceptive legal analysis, including the ability to build a logical and persuasive argument, to read and understand legal decisions and statutes, and to grasp whether and how legal authorities apply to a new set of facts.
- You have excellent legal writing skills, including the ability to present ideas in a clear and organized manner and to write a memo that teaches the reader what you have learned through research (whether the meaning of a specific case or the state of a body of law in general).
- You have the empathy and interpersonal skills necessary to connect with, listen to, learn from, advise, and work collaboratively with clients and other community members.
- Your experience includes at least one clinical or externship semester *or* summer internship working in a litigation setting involving legal research and writing.
- You will be a D.C. Bar member by fall 2020 or will seek admission during the fellowship.

### TO APPLY

The deadline for applying is **11:59pm Eastern time on Sunday, October 27, 2019**. To apply, send an email to [hr@acludc.org](mailto:hr@acludc.org). The email should include the following attachments:

1. A copy of your resume that lists relevant experience.
2. A statement of interest of no more than 600 words that addresses the following three topics:
  - a. What civil rights/liberties issue do you feel is most pressing right now and why?
  - b. How do your skills and experiences make you a good fit for this position?
  - c. Describe a specific example of when you took ownership (or responsibility) of a project or assignment. What did it mean to you to take ownership? What was the end result?
3. A list of three references, including a sentence about each one identifying what information the person can provide. If possible, at least one of your references should be a practicing attorney. The others may also be practitioners but could be professors, community members, coworkers, or others who can speak to your relevant skills and experience.
4. In place of a transcript, a list of all law school courses that you have taken, are currently taking, or are scheduled to take next semester.

*The ACLU-DC is an equal opportunity employer. We value a diverse workforce and an inclusive culture. The ACLU-DC encourages applications from all qualified individuals without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, age, national origin, marital status, citizenship, disability, veteran status, or any other classification protected by the D.C. Human Rights Act or federal employment law. **If you have a disability and need a reasonable accommodation regarding any part of the application process, please include your accommodation request(s) in your application email.***