



2025 Boston University School of Law Post-Graduate Fellowships:

Boston University School of Law Citrix Systems Racial and Social Justice Fellowship; Public Service Fellowships; and the N. Neal Pike Disability Rights Fellowship

FAQs for Fellowship Host Organizations

What are the Boston University School of Law Post-Graduate Fellowships? Boston University School of Law will award several BU funded full-time public service fellowships, to a select group of its graduating students of the class of 2025. Any member of the graduating class is eligible to apply for fellowship funding in one of our fellowship categories.

- Citrix Systems Racial and Social Justice Fellowship for voting rights, criminal justice reform, or other social justice initiatives; (1 available)
- The Public Service Fellowship (1 available); and
- The N. Neal Pike disability rights fellowship (1 available)

The fellowship term will run from approximately September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026.

It is a **two-step competitive** process where ***funding is not guaranteed*** to all who apply.

The ***Boston University School of Law Citrix Systems Racial and Social Justice Fellowship*** was established in 2020 through a dedicated gift to the Law School by Citrix Systems, Inc. to help a graduating third-year J.D. student secure a year-long placement at a nonprofit organization advocating for voting rights, criminal justice reform, or other social justice initiatives.

The goals of the ***Boston University School of Law Public Service Fellowships*** are to launch graduates' careers in public service, and to provide legal services to underserved populations and entities via placement of fellows in non-profit organizations and local and state government agencies that would not otherwise be financially able to support a new attorney.

The goal of the ***N. Neal Pike Disability Rights Fellowship*** is to assist a graduating student in launching their career in the disability rights field and requires the fellow's work to be directly related to disability rights.

What is the fellowship award? All Fellows receive salary of \$65,000 plus Boston University standard benefits. Fellows are ordinarily employees of Boston University during the duration of the fellowship. Where financially needed, the Citrix Fellow will receive an additional stipend (up to \$8,000) to help defray expenses related to bar preparation, moving, housing, and transportation. The Citrix Fellow may also receive additional compensation up to \$9,500 annually to help alleviate the burden of educational loan payments to the extent that the Citrix Fellow has outstanding educational loans. These amounts may be subject to taxes.

Did I hear something about a BU Specific EJW Fellowship?

Yes! In addition to the fellowship categories mentioned above, through a donation made possible by a generous BU donor, there is also an opportunity for one BU graduate of the class of 2025 who applies for an Equal Justice Works Fellowship through the normal process (***note the EJW deadline 9/10/24***). Any BU student who submits an application to EJW with an eligible host and project that did not get funded by the national funders will be considered for BU specific funding for their EJW project. ***Only one such award is available, and that student must first have applied in a timely manner for an EJW fellowship.***

Is my organization/agency eligible to serve as a fellowship host? U.S. state and local government agencies and non-profit organizations are eligible to host a Public Service or N. Neal Pike fellow. The Citrix Fellowship is only available to non-profits.

Can our organization or agency list a posting for a fellow? Yes! Please send postings to Eron Hackshaw at the email listed below and include contact information for a staff member who will be available for inquiries from interested students.

Host organization postings are **not required**. Students may also reach out to you directly.

What are the requirements for a fellowship host organization? Fellowship hosts may choose to work with an applicant to design a specific project but are not required or expected to do so. The host may deploy the fellow as needed to perform general staff attorney functions. Host organizations are required to supply malpractice insurance (if applicable), legal training, and direct supervision of the Fellow by an attorney.

What is the application deadline and timing of the selection of fellows? Applications will be available to students in December 2024; they are due at the end of March 2025. Fellows will be selected and notified by late April or early May.

Can our organization provide additional compensation to a fellow? Yes! In fact, given the financial realities for our graduates who are planning to pursue public service and public interest careers we are strongly encouraging sponsoring organizations to consider paying fellows the difference between what would be the typical salary for this position in your organization and the amount of the BU Law Fellowships.

What are application requirements? A completed application must have: 1) An essay written by the applicant, detailing the work to be done, and how it advances the fellowships' goals; 2) the applicant's resume; 3) the applicant's law school transcript; 4) three letters of recommendation for the applicant; and 4) a commitment letter from the fellowship host. Fellowship hosts may also submit additional background materials.

What should a commitment letter contain? A strong commitment letter will describe the nature of the legal work to be performed by the fellow, how the fellow's work will address unmet legal needs, why the fellowship host would not otherwise be financially able to support a new attorney, the supervision that will be provided, and how the fellowship will contribute to the fellow's professional development. Fellowship hosts are encouraged to provide as much detail as possible about their organization/agency and about the work the fellow will be doing.

Other details? Fellowships have been named by Boston University School of Law donors. At the conclusion of the fellowship, fellows are required to submit a report to Boston University School of Law; fellowship hosts do not need to participate in the report's preparation.

Additional questions? Contact Eron Hackshaw, Director for Public Service and Pro Bono at eronh@bu.edu or 617-353-8981.