



DISASTER RESILIENCE PROGRAM

/ Law Student Frequently Asked Questions

The Disaster Resilience Program mobilizes Fellows and law students to provide free civil legal aid in areas hard hit by COVID-19 and prone to natural disasters, to ensure vital legal services are accessible to rebuild lives, stabilize communities, and create resilience. Participants, called Student Fellows, have a unique opportunity to explore their passion for equal justice by serving some of the most marginalized communities in Texas and Florida—all while working toward a \$5,000 stipend.

Who is eligible?

The Disaster Resilience Summer Law Student Component is open to current law students who have completed their first year of law school by the start of the program (summer 2021).

How do I submit a strong application?

A standout application would showcase a law student's passion for public service and access-to-justice issues. Additionally, a strong display of interest for or prior experience in legal disaster preparedness, response, and recovery work also holds significant weight in the decision process. If you have a personal connection to disaster legal aid, highlighting that connection is another way to make a positive impression.

What type of training do Student Fellows receive?

All Disaster Resilience Student Fellows will attend a virtual orientation meeting before their service begins. This training is made up of a series of workshops and panels on substantive and professional development topics, as well as networking opportunities and time for outstanding questions. Throughout the summer, Student Fellows will attend monthly Disaster Resilience Program Fellow meetings, which alternate between substantive topical discussion to professional development trainings. Equal Justice Works is also available for technical support throughout the summer. Student Fellows will receive additional training and support from their individual host organizations.

What type of work can I expect to complete during my Student Fellowship?

Student Fellows will take on a wide range of responsibilities regardless of the specific project focus area of their host site or Fellow. These assignments can include direct



client services, client intake consultations/interviewing with supervising attorneys, legal writing opportunities, and court appearances. Projects may also include non-legal assignments such as community outreach, education, and pro bono coordination. You can find a list of host organizations and their position descriptions [here](#). You can find all current Disaster Resilience Program Fellows and their Fellowship descriptions [here](#).

Can the Disaster Resilience Program Summer Law Student Component lead to long-term opportunities following law school graduation?

Yes! Several Student Fellows from Equal Justice Works Summer Law Student opportunities have been hired by their previous host sites as full-time staff attorneys after graduation. For example, [Ana Laurel](#), a 2018 Equal Justice Works Fellow in our Disaster Recovery Legal Corps, previously served in the Rural Summer Legal Corps.

What do I need in order to apply?

Applicants will be asked to provide a résumé and a summary of professional qualifications and interest in the program. An applicant may apply to more than one host organization; however, a full and separate application is required for each organization.

For more information about program eligibility and to apply, visit [here](#). If you have any questions email us at disasterresilienceprogram@equaljusticeworks.org. Be sure to submit your application before the deadline on **February 16, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. ET.**