

The Law Foundation of British Columbia
1340 – 605 Robson Street
Vancouver, BC V6B 5J3
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LAW FOUNDATION GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS 2012/2013

VALUE: Up to five (5) Awards of \$13,750 each. (subject to change)

CLOSING DATE: All applications and supporting material must be received at the Law Foundation offices by **January 6, 2012**. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

FIELD OF STUDY: Full time graduate studies in law or a law-related area. Please note that the pursuit of a Juris Doctor (JD), as a first law degree, does not constitute graduate studies for the purposes of the Law Foundation Graduate Fellowships.

WHERE TENABLE: Recognized universities in Canada, the U.S. or abroad. NOTE: The Law Foundation Graduate Fellowship is not available for the graduate programs of the Faculties of Law at the University of British Columbia and the University of Victoria as the Law Foundation makes separate grants to the Graduate Fellowship programs at these universities.

ELIGIBILITY: Applicants must either be residents of British Columbia; graduates of a British Columbia law school; or members of the British Columbia Bar. In order to be eligible, applicants must devote themselves primarily to their full-time graduate studies in law or a law-related area.

TERM OF FELLOWSHIP: The Fellowships are available for the 2012 - 2013 academic year. If a recipient's program of study extends beyond one year, he/she may apply for a second Fellowship in the next year's competition. An award of a Fellowship for the first year of study does not constitute a commitment for further funding. Please note that there is a simplified process for students wishing to apply for a second or subsequent Fellowship. (See Simplified Process for Re-Applications)

REPORTING: It is a condition of the Fellowship that a recipient submit two (2) reports to the Law Foundation: an interim report on the program of study following the first term; and a final report, within three (3) months of the end of the academic year on the program of study undertaken, the results obtained and the future career plans of the recipient.

SELECTION PROCESS: Applications will be assessed by the Fellowships and Research Committee composed of a minimum of three Governors of the Law Foundation and one representative from each of the law faculties of the University of Victoria and the University of British Columbia. In assessing applications, the Committee will consider not only a candidate's academic achievements but the likelihood of furtherance of the objectives of the Law Foundation and the possible benefits to the public of British Columbia from making an award to a candidate. In assessing this likelihood, the Committee will take into consideration a candidate's:

- a) academic achievements;
- b) leadership qualities;
- c) involvement in community activities;
- d) proposed course of study;

and such other factors as the Committee deems relevant.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES:

Application forms and further information may be obtained from the Law Foundation, 1340 - 605 Robson Street, Vancouver, BC V6B 5J3 or by contacting us via our website at www.lawfoundationbc.org. Each application form must be typed and accompanied by a current resume which summarizes your work and volunteer experience. Applicants should have official transcripts of all previous post-secondary study sent directly to the Law Foundation. Three (3) letters of reference should be sent directly to the Law Foundation from persons such as former professors, employers or colleagues who can comment on your scholarship, abilities and personal qualities.

SIMPLIFIED APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR RE-APPLICATIONS:

If you have received a Law Foundation Graduate Fellowship in the previous year and your program of study extends beyond one year, you may apply for a subsequent Fellowship in the next year's competition by providing a letter of request and a signed letter from your academic advisor confirming your continued full-time attendance in the program. Please include the following in your letter of request:

- a) a summary of your program of study;
- b) a progress report of the work accomplished during the previous year; results obtained; and a description of plans for the coming year, including explanations of any substantial deviation from the plan originally outlined in the previous year's proposal. This report should be endorsed by two (2) members of the supervising committee, one being the supervisor,
- c) an updated schedule for completing the graduate program; and
- d) any other information relevant to your application.

The onus is on the applicant to ensure that all documents are submitted to the Law Foundation by the **January 6, 2012** deadline. Applications may be submitted by mail, courier or fax, but not electronically.

THE LAW FOUNDATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

MISSION STATEMENT

To advance and promote a just society governed by the rule of law, through leadership, innovation and collaboration.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The Law Foundation's funds are directed to five mandated areas: legal education, legal research, legal aid, law reform, and law libraries. The Law Foundation seeks to ensure access to justice through its program objectives which are:

1. Legal Education

To promote legal education programs and services in British Columbia to make the law more accessible through:

- a) increasing public awareness of the law and the justice system;
- b) providing education to groups with particular legal needs; and
- c) assisting in the academic and professional development of those providing legal services to ensure those services are of the highest quality.

2. Legal Research

To advance the knowledge of:

- a) law;
- b) social policy; and
- c) the administration of justice

through the identification of areas and issues needing study and analysis and the encouragement and support of projects to address those needs.

3. Legal Aid

- a) To assist in the provision of legal services, including:
 - i. advice and representation of economically disadvantaged persons; and
 - ii. support of community service and non-profit organizations that address issues that benefit groups of disadvantaged persons or the public.
- b) To facilitate access of the public to the justice system.

4. Law Reform

To encourage and support projects promoting changes to the law and the administration of justice in accord with current knowledge, values and technology.

5. Law Libraries

- a) To assist law libraries and resource centres to keep their materials current.
- b) To encourage and support projects designed to improve the utility and accessibility to both the legal profession and the public of legal and law-related materials.

The MISSION STATEMENT and PROGRAM OBJECTIVES have been adopted by the Board of Governors as policy guidelines. These are the principles upon which funding decisions will be based.

PART C - WORK AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE:

Please append a concise resume summarizing your work and volunteer experience.

What employment, if any, do you anticipate during the course of your graduate studies?

PART D - PROPOSED GRADUATE STUDIES:

1. Proposed University(ies):

Ultimate Degree to be obtained:

Expected Year of Graduation:

Date tenure to begin, if granted Fellowship:

Have you applied to the above University(ies): Yes / No

Has your acceptance been received (please attach): Yes / No

Does your present employer know about your study plans: Yes / No

2. Other financial awards applied for, including amount applied for:

3. Other financial awards already confirmed, including amount:

4. List below the three (3) persons whom you have requested to provide letters of reference. Please ask your references to comment on your scholarship, abilities and personal qualities, and to mail these letters of reference directly to the Law Foundation so that they are received by **January 6, 2012**.

(i) Name (and Position):
Address:

Telephone:

(ii) Name (and Position):
Address:

Telephone:

(iii) Name (and Position):
Address:

Telephone:

PART D - PROPOSED GRADUATE STUDIES (CONTINUED)

4. Describe your proposed program of study. Outline how it relates to the mission statement and program objectives of the Law Foundation and to your personal and professional goals. Please be specific about your career plans following graduate studies. Indicate briefly why you have selected this program and university.

PART E - OTHER FACTORS

If there are other factors you believe may be relevant to your application, set them out below. For example, if you are a member of a disadvantaged or under-represented group in the legal profession, whether through ethnicity, disability or otherwise, you may wish to draw this circumstance to the attention of the Fellowships and Research Committee.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

NOTE: This application and all supporting documents must be received in the Law Foundation office by **January 6, 2012.**