



2023 Martin Luther King Jr. Fellowship Opportunity

About Our Fellowship Program

PLAN, Inc. created the **Martin Luther King, Jr. Fellowship Program** in 2004. In partnership with a sponsoring regional or specialty program, law school graduates and attorneys who are new to practice are hired as full-time staff attorneys for a two-year fellowship. The fellowship is intended to support and promote new lawyers who are interested in long term public interest careers. Fellows are assigned mentors and supervised by experienced attorneys.

Salary and benefits are determined by the host program. In addition, loan repayment assistance (LRA), up to \$5,500, is available per fellowship year. Fellows are required to apply for LRA through the PA Bar Foundation IOLTA Loan Repayment Program, their law school, and/or the Legal Services Corporation (LSC) in order to receive PLAN Inc. LRA. The 2023-24 PA Bar Foundation IOLTA Loan Repayment Program application is expected to open in early September 2023.

Fellowship Opportunity

Host Program:

Neighborhood Legal Services (NLS)
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Host Program Background:

NLS is a nonprofit law firm fighting for justice for our low-income clients. NLS staff attorneys provide the highest quality of legal representation and handle all functions related to case work in a high-volume, general law practice.

Fellowship Details:

The MLK, Jr. Fellow will work as a staff attorney to provide legal representation and address legal issues related to housing insecurity including eviction prevention and other legal barriers to housing stability. The position will require courtroom appearances as well as phone advice and consultation.

Additionally, the MLK, Jr. Fellow will assist PLAN, Inc. to advance the priorities outlined in its Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) Initiative which includes, but is not limited, to in-person and virtual training facilitation.

Qualifications:

NLS is seeking applicants who graduated from an accredited law school. Applicants must be licensed to practice law in Pennsylvania, admitted to another jurisdiction and eligible for admission in Pennsylvania, or awaiting July 2024 Pennsylvania Bar Exam Results. Strong computer knowledge and skills including Microsoft Office Suite, keen organization and recognized attention to detail, work cooperatively with others, a demonstrated commitment to economic and racial justice, and the ability to establish a positive, effective, professional relationship with clients in a way that fosters client trust and confidence is a must. Must also have efficient transportation to locations other than the NLS office as needed for work.

Physical Requirements:

Must be able to sit for prolonged periods at a desk and work on a computer.

Must be able to lift up to 10 pounds at a time.

Duties and Responsibilities: Include screening clients for eligibility and make referrals, as needed; conducting factual investigation, analysis, and legal research, as needed; keeping clients informed on an ongoing basis and provide counsel about their options; preparing pleadings, including but not limited to, complaints, answers, memoranda of law, briefs as may be needed; preparing cases and represent clients in negotiations, hearings, trials, and appeals; monitoring client files and close files in a timely manner as required by program policy; planning and attending community outreach and education sessions; and collaborating with development team to identify funding opportunities and build project sustainability.

Benefits:

- 100% paid healthcare through Highmark includes prescription and dental
- 100% paid Life/ADD, Long-term Disability, Short-term Disability Insurance
- Paid Health Reimbursement Account (HRA)
- Contributions to a 403b and/or Roth 403b after one-year of service (optional)
- Paid Time Off (pro-rated first year)
 - 15 vacation days
 - 14 sick days
 - 3 Personal Days
 - 16 Holidays

To apply for this fellowship, please submit electronically a cover letter, resume, three professional or academic references (must identify relationship with reference), official law school transcript, and a personal writing sample (limit 10 pages) to:

Human Resources
hr@nlsa.us

NLS is an equal opportunity employer.

For more information: <https://palegalaid.net/internships-fellowships>

For more information on NLS: <https://nlsa.us/>