



VABANC LAW FOUNDATION PUBLIC INTEREST FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION

The Vietnamese American Bar Association of Northern California (VABANC) Law Foundation (“VLF”) Public Interest Fellowship Program will fund one \$50,000 award to a recent law graduate or new attorney for the duration of one (1) year to provide legal services and advocacy for the underserved and marginalized communities.

The VLF Fellowship Program seeks to increase access to legal services on critical issues and improve the quality of legal services delivered to under-resourced populations, including but not limited to the Vietnamese American community.

Vision and History

The Vietnamese American Bar Association of Northern California (VABANC) was founded in 1998 to provide Vietnamese American attorneys with a vehicle for the unified expression of opinions and positions on matters of concern to all Vietnamese American attorneys, to encourage and promote the professional growth of its members, and to advocate for civil and human rights of the community at large.

VABANC has a strong sense of community responsibility. VABANC strives not only to meet the professional needs of its members, but also to use available resources and expertise to serve the public interest. In 2002, VABANC launched its annual Scholarship Dinner to recognize outstanding Bay Area law students who demonstrated a commitment to serving the greater public interest. Since then, VABANC has awarded several scholarships per year to recognize the recipients’ achievements and commitments to serving their communities.

The VABANC Law Foundation was created in 2010 as a non-profit sister organization to administer the Fellowship Program. The VLF Fellowship Program builds on VABANC’s goals of supporting a law graduate who will serve the greater community and whose work will achieve a richer and more inclusive vision of social justice in underserved communities. To that end, VLF provides a competitive award of \$50,000 to one recent law graduate or new attorney to provide direct legal services on timely and critical practice areas within reputable non-profit legal organization.

Fellowship Requirements

- Recent admission to a state bar association;
- Strong demonstrated interest and desire in working with the Vietnamese American community and/or social justice work with marginalized communities;
- Unique life experiences or other experiences in overcoming personal adversity/challenges;
- Overall academic excellence;
- Sponsoring non-profit organization with a demonstrated commitment towards providing legal services to the underserved and under-resourced communities.



Application Requirements

1. Application Form
2. Resume
3. Law School Transcript (Official Transcript will be required if selected)
4. Two (2) Letters of Recommendation
5. Proposal (3 pages max, 12 point, Times New Roman, 1 inch margins) covering the following topics:
 1. The proposed public interest project describing which legal rights being enforced;
 2. The project's relevancy in advancing the legal and civil rights of the Vietnamese American community and/or other underserved and marginalized communities.
6. A commitment letter (1 page) from the potential sponsoring non-profit organization.

Instructions: Please send all materials in a single .pdf file to [vlf.fellowship\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:vlf.fellowship[at]gmail.com) by the posted due dates. Interviews will be conducted shortly thereafter in the San Francisco Bay Area. Any questions can be directed to [vlf.fellowship\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:vlf.fellowship[at]gmail.com) or by visiting our website at www.vlawfoundation.org.

Name:	
Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
Telephone:	Email:
Law School:	
Date of Graduation:	Date of Bar Exam/Admission (State):
Undergraduate School:	
Undergraduate Degree:	Graduation Date:
Other Graduate Degrees & Year Awarded:	
Sponsoring Organization:	
Organization Address:	
Organization City, State, Zip:	
Sponsoring Organization Contact:	
Telephone:	Email:
Website:	

Non-Discrimination Policy: The VABANC Law Foundation Public Interest Fellowship Program is committed to a policy against discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, marital or parental status, race, color, religious creed, national origin, age or handicap.