



Helping Others Through Pro Bono Efforts

Public Interest Resource Center

University of Miami School of Law

HOPE Fellows Application Summer 2008

The HOPE Public Interest Resource Center provides stipends to law students who work in uncompensated public interest jobs. Please read and complete the entire application.

Who is eligible to apply?

- All rising University of Miami School of Law 2Ls and 3Ls may apply for summer Fellows' awards.
- Due to limited resources, priority may be given to students who have a demonstrated commitment to public service and financial need.
- Students may not receive credit or compensation (from the host agency) for their work. If additional funding is being sought, students must list the source and amount of funding.

Students who accept the HOPE Fellows' award must:

- Complete a minimum of 240 hours of work during summer placements, over a period of no less than 8 weeks. Summer Fellows will receive a \$3500 stipend.
- Serve on the Public Interest Leadership Board during the following academic year, which will require attendance at monthly meetings and active involvement in furthering public interest initiatives.
- Contribute to the continuing development of the public interest area in which they serve (i.e. create a how-to guide for students looking to work in a similar area, organize a day of advocacy on behalf of the community served, create educational materials for the community served, or plan a program/presentation for UM law students). Dean Lennon must approve this project.
- Submit an article and photographs describing and documenting the fellowship experience. The article and photographs may be used in various UM media publications and to educate students about Fellows opportunities. Articles must be at least 8 pages. Further specifications will be provided upon award.

What organizations or agencies may I work for?

- You may select any local, national or international public interest/nonprofit agency. Some government offices will qualify. Please see Dean Lennon if you have questions. Your work, however, must contribute uniquely to the agency and provide new, or augment existing, services. A traditional placement as a summer intern will not, in and of itself, make one eligible for a HOPE Fellowship.
- All HOPE Fellows must work under the supervision of a licensed attorney.

When are applications due?

- Completed applications must be submitted to the HOPE Public Interest Resource Center, B-446, by **Thursday, February 28th at 5:00 p.m.** Students must sign up for an interview at the time of submission.

What if I still have questions?

- Please email Dean Lennon at mlennon@law.miami.edu, or call 305-284-2599.

**HOPE Fellows Application
Summer 2008**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Year in School/Graduation Year: _____

Email: _____

Agency/Organization & Location: _____

1. Please indicate your selected agency and how your work will contribute uniquely to the goals of the agency.
2. Please describe why you are an ideal candidate to work at this agency/organization.
3. Describe, in detail, your past contributions to the community through outreach and advocacy. Please include your involvement with law school public interest/public service programs, including HOPE, CEPS, Lit Skills and student organizations.
4. Many law schools have mandatory pro bono requirements for students. Do you believe this is a policy that the University of Miami School of Law should adopt? Why or why not?
5. Do you speak Spanish, Creole, French or any other foreign language? What is your skill level (i.e. fluent, proficient, basic)?

6. Please describe your financial need. Be sure to indicate if you receive financial aid, family support or other scholarships.
7. In the Summer of 2008, will you be a Certified Legal Intern?
8. Is there any other information you would like us to consider in your application to become a HOPE Fellow?

* Please note it is your responsibility to obtain an approval of employment from your agency.

Completed Applications, along with a copy of your resume, are due in the HOPE Public Interest Resource Center (B-446) by Thursday, February 28th at 5p.m.