

BEAGLE/HLS FELLOWSHIP AT NRDC
San Francisco, CA, Santa Monica, CA, New York, NY,
Chicago, IL, or Washington, DC
2021—2023

History and Purposes

The Beagle/HLS Fellowship at the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) provides graduating HLS students and recent alumni with a two-year funded litigation position at NRDC. The Fellowship was established by a generous gift to Harvard Law School by the Beagle Foundation that was created by Joy Covey '89. The purposes of the Fellowship are to create a two-year job at NRDC for a recent HLS graduate (the "Fellow"); to provide training and supervision for the Fellow; to enhance the Fellow's lawyering/litigation skills; and to promote the Fellow's interest in pursuing a career in nonprofit litigation and environmental law.

Beagle/HLS Fellowship at NRDC Guidelines

Eligibility

The Beagle/HLS Fellowship will be awarded to graduating Harvard Law School students, judicial clerks or recent alumni (up to three years out of law school). Preference will be given to law clerks and third-year students. Applicants must be available to start work the fall following their application.

Selection Criteria

The Fellows are selected by NRDC and an HLS Committee. NRDC and the Committee seek Fellows who have demonstrated an interest in, and commitment to, nonprofit law, and who demonstrate promise for an outstanding career in nonprofit environmental law. This interest and commitment may be demonstrated through prior public service experience, personal essays, recommendations, extracurricular activities, law school course work, academic achievements, and current work plans.

NRDC is committed to advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion, both in its work and in the workplace. NRDC believes that celebrating and actively welcoming a diversity of voices and perspectives is essential to solving the planet's most pressing environmental problems, and encourages applications from candidates whose identities have been historically under-represented in the environmental movement. NRDC is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate in hiring or employment on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, marital status, sexual orientation, national origin, citizenship, age, disability, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state, or local law. Pursuant to the San Francisco Fair Chance Ordinance, NRDC will consider for employment qualified applicants with arrest and conviction records.

Applicants must be admitted to the Bar of the jurisdiction where they are placed, or be willing to complete the admission requirements before or upon the start of the position.

Position Description

The Beagle Fellow will join NRDC's Litigation Team, a group of approximately 30 lawyers and 8 paralegals and legal or operations assistants who litigate across a broad range of environmental and public health issues, often in coalition with national, regional, and local partners.

NRDC's Litigation Team has filed numerous lawsuits resisting the current administration's efforts to dismantle environmental protections, including cases defending national monuments, challenging the suspension of clean water safeguards, opposing offshore drilling and seismic exploration, and protecting energy efficiency standards. The Litigation Tam also maintains a robust docket of environmental enforcement cases against government and private party polluters, including cases brought in collaboration with and on behalf of communities most impacted by environmental injustices (including Black, indigenous, and people of color, and low-income and rural communities). The NRDC Litigation Team's recent enforcement docket has included cases to protect the people of Newark, New Jersey, and Flint, Michigan, from lead in drinking water; to remediate toxic mercury pollution in the Penobscot River in Maine; to abate mold in New York City public housing for residents with asthma; and to halt air pollution from a coal-fired power plant in Illinois.

The Beagle Fellow's responsibilities may include:

- Collaborating with a team of other lawyers and paralegals on legal research and factual investigations;
- Writing briefs, motions, and memoranda;
- Presenting oral arguments and participating in status conferences and hearings;
- Preparing for and taking depositions;
- Communicating with opposing counsel, clients, and partner organizations; and
- Engaging in discovery and conducting record and document review.

Placement

The Beagle Fellow for 2021-2023 will be placed in NRDC's San Francisco, Santa Monica, New York, Chicago, or Washington DC office, and will try to honor the Fellow's preference as to placement. As of fall 2020, NRDC's physical offices are temporarily closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic; if circumstances have not yet allowed office re-opening by fall 2021, NRDC will support the Fellow in working remotely.

Compensation

The Fellow's compensation will be equivalent to the starting salary for a new attorney or fellow at NRDC, according to the NRDC scale. For 2020-2021, salary will likely be in the range of \$65,000-\$83,500, depending upon experience. NRDC provides excellent medical and other benefits, equivalent to those provided to other NRDC employees.

Application Materials and Procedures

All applications must include:

- A cover letter, which should include a statement about which NRDC office the applicant would prefer to work in and which office(s) the applicant would consider working in,
- Resume,
- Law school transcript,
- Writing sample,
- Two letters of recommendation, preferably including one from an HLS faculty member, and the name of a third reference,
- A personal essay.

Applications should be received by the Environmental Law Program, addressed to Kathy Curley, by October 23, 2020.

Selected applicants will be invited to interview with NRDC and must participate in the interview to be further considered for the Fellowship.

Questions may be directed to Kathy Curley at curley@law.harvard.edu. Applications and correspondence should be sent to:

Kathy Curley at curley@law.harvard.edu

Award Decisions

Applicants will be notified about the outcome of the selection process by December 2020.

Each Fellow's salary will be treated as eligible for the Low Income Protection Program (HLS's loan repayment program).