

SUMMER GRANT APPLICATION INFORMATION

Awards are decided on a rolling basis, while funds remain

Applications must be received by **April 1, 2026** to be considered for Specialty Grants

A. Purpose and Eligibility

Iowa Law's Summer Grant Program is designed to financially ease the burden of Iowa Law students who pursue unpaid or low paid summer internships to further their development as attorneys. Available grants are listed below along with the eligibility criteria. A student needs only to submit one Summer Grant Application, and if eligible, will be considered for multiple grants. All applicants must be 1L or 2L JD (including advanced degree and joint degree students with remaining semesters for their JD degree) in good standing and have secured and accepted a position.

Summer grants are for students volunteering, or low paid, over the summer for a public interest non-profit organization or government agency (including in judicial chambers). **Public interest agencies include IRS Code 501(c)(3) entities, government agencies, and advocacy groups.** Students that meet this criteria will be awarded \$1,000 on a rolling basis, based on responses to the application and subject to the availability of funds. In mid-April 2026, students that apply for and are selected to receive a Specialty Grant will be notified of the increase in their grant award. Students must apply for those funds by submitting a supplementary essay. Recipients of a Specialty Grant will be awarded the dollar amount associated with the grant in lieu of any baseline award.

Applicants are required to provide information on any outside funding when submitting the application. If funding is secured after submission, students should contact our office as soon as possible. Outside funding may eliminate the eligibility for some grants. Failure to disclose outside funding may result in the cancellation of current awards and ineligibility of future grants.

If there are changes to the employer or position details after you submit your application, you must email our office to update your application. We reserve the right to deny funding if the update would have affected the review. If the application is not updated, it may result in cancellation of the grant.

Recipients of certain grants may be asked to complete a thank you note with the donor of the grant fund. Students can find ideas on what to submit with their thank you note on our website. This helps support ongoing funding and shows donors the impact of their grants.

B. Specialty Grant Descriptions

Specialty Grants are for students whose summer placements meet specific donor requirements, such as working in a certain location, doing a particular type of work, or serving a specific population. These grants are only awarded when a student's placement matches the donor's stated criteria.

Annette Stewart International Summer Travel Stipend

- Preference given to students participating in a study abroad program or an externship abroad.

Hubbell Environmental Law Summer Fellowship

- \$6,000 awards to support students in unpaid public interest or public service positions in environmental law. Applications will be sent to the Hubbell Environmental Law Initiative (HELI) through this link (updated link).

Jeff Borns Public Interest Rule of Law Award

- \$5,000 award for an in-person summer internship at a public interest organization, preferably located in Washington, DC metro area, or other major metro area, for a student who demonstrates financial need.
- Preference also be given to students who are from or have close ties to Iowa and would not otherwise have the opportunity to obtain such an internship.

Katherine Finn Milleman Memorial Law Award

- Two awards of \$4,000 for students pursuing creative coursework in the writing or the arts or pursuing an unpaid position with an entity that promotes social justice and equality.

La Suer Stahle Law Stipend

- Unpaid internship in Washington, DC.

Stanley & Gail Richards Fund in Support of Disability Programs

- Multiple awards to support law students working with organizations in the public or nonprofit sector that advocate for or support persons with disabilities.

Trandafir Summer Fellowship Award

- Provide law-related services to district judges in the Midwest. Preference for those with financial need.

C. General Grants

General Grants are for students doing public-interest or non-profit summer work that is unpaid or low-paid. These grants are flexible and can be used for many different kinds of placements because they don't have any special donor requirements about where you work or what type of work you do.

Students not selected for a Specialty Grant will be awarded \$1,000 from funds such as, Equal Justice Foundation (EJF) Summer Grants; Citizen Lawyer Program (CLP) Fund; Class of 1998 Public Interest Summer Internship Fund Award; Summer Public Interest Clerkship Fund; Nadipuram Family Law Opportunity Fund.

D. Application Requirements

Please follow the instructions below to ensure your application is COMPLETE:

1. Application must be completed online. This checklist will help you prepare the information needed beforehand.

The application requests the following:

Number of Volunteer Service Hours and agencies with which you volunteered.

A copy of the correspondence offering you a summer position. You do not need a formal letter; an email from the agency is sufficient. Please name your file as follows:

Summer 2026 Grants "Lastname_Firstname-correspondence."

This correspondence is not reviewed by the committee but will be retained with your application.

2. Complete and submit an application. Be sure to upload requested documentation when prompted.

NOTE: Be aware that if you do not follow the application guidelines set forth in this document, your application will receive reduced consideration by the selection committee and may ultimately be deemed ineligible.

E. Deadlines/Application Processing

Apply once you have secured and accepted an eligible public interest position. Decisions will be made on a rolling basis, and the application will remain open while funds remain. Specialty Grants will be reviewed based on the answers on your application.

F. Confidentiality of Information Provided in the Application

All information provided in this application is protected as a confidential student record under federal law (The Family Educational Records and Privacy Act). It will be shared with persons who serve on the selection committee (although de-identified to the extent possible) and other administrators authorized by law to gain access.