Northern Illinois University College of Law and Illinois Bar Foundation

Post-Graduate Legal Fellowship

The Illinois Bar Foundation (IBF) has partnered with Northern Illinois University College of Law to create a new post-graduate legal fellowship (IBF Fellowship). NIU College of Law is one of only two law schools in the State of Illinois selected to participate in the inaugural year of this fellowship program. Both the IBF and the College of Law are committed to making this a success for the IBF, the student who obtains the fellowship, and the community served by the creation of this opportunity. The Fellow will work at NIU College of Law’s Zeke Giorgi Legal Clinic located in Rockford, Illinois for a period of one year after the graduate completes his or her legal education and takes the bar exam (beginning May to August 2014). Students who have graduated in December 2013 and May 2014 are eligible to apply.

The purposes of the IBF Fellowship are to:

- Increase access to civil legal aid for low income residents of the State of Illinois by providing efficient and effective legal services by qualified lawyers;
- Help new attorneys develop practical legal skills and hone interpersonal, professional and business skills in order to enhance their prospects of employment at the conclusion of the Fellowship;
- To instill in young attorneys a spirit of public interest law so that they can continue their service of low-income clients throughout their careers; and
- Enhance the image of the legal profession.

The Fellow will receive training, supervision, and mentorship from NIU College of Law’s Clinical Faculty working at the Zeke Giorgi Legal Clinic. The Fellow will represent low-income residents of Winnebago County, Illinois and may include representation in the following types of civil cases:

- Civil Orders of Protection for domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and elder abuse survivors;
• Family law matters on behalf of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking survivors including dissolution of marriage, parentage, child custody, child visitation, and child support;
• Estate planning matters including drafting Last Will and Testaments and Powers of Attorney for seniors over the age of 60 years old; and
• Civil matters on behalf of seniors including financial exploitation, probate, and small claims matters.

• NIU College of Law will select and employ the Fellow, while sharing the cost of salary and benefits with the Illinois Bar Foundation. The following criteria will be considered in selecting the Fellow:
  • Recent Graduate of NIU College of Law (December 2013 or May 2014);
  • Eligible and registered to take the Illinois Bar by July 2014;
  • Demonstrated commitment to public interest law;
  • Participation in a law school clinical course;
  • Responses to questions posed in the application;
  • Employment and other relevant experience, as set forth in the resume;
  • References;
  • Cumulative Grade Point Average and College of Law official transcript; and
  • Commitment to one-year term of the Fellowship.

The Application deadline is: **Monday, March 17, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.**

Please submit application and all supporting materials to **Professor Anita Maddali** at amaddali@niu.edu.

If you have questions about the fellowship program or would like more information, please contact one of the members of the selection committee. This committee will make recommendations to the Dean, who will make the final selection of the Fellow.

• Anita Maddali, Assistant Professor of Law and Director of Clinics  
  amaddali@niu.edu

• Wendy Vaughn, Clinical Assistant Professor, Supervising Attorney Zeke Giorgi Legal Clinic  
  wvaughn@niu.edu or (815) 962-9980