**2024 ABAWSSF Spring Blossom Fellowship Application**

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the Asian Bar Association of Washington Student Scholarship Foundation (“**ABAWSSF**”) Spring Blossom Fellowship. This fellowship will provide one grant of up to $5,000 to a law student pursuing a JD degree at a law school in the State of Washington and who will be working with a public interest/service organization during the Summer of 2024 whose work advances the rights of women and/or immigrants. Applicants must contact a potential employer himself/herself/themselves, arrange for a summer position, and then apply for the fellowship. Thus, applicants should start the process of seeking a summer position as soon as possible.

Funding for the fellowship is made possible by a generous donation from the Honorable Lorraine Lee and John Felleisen, in partnership with the ABAWSSF. The fellowship will be awarded in the name of, and in honor and memory of, Chun Lan “Spring Blossom” Ng Woo, 1918-2008, an immigrant woman from China who lived her life with integrity, courage, and resilience.

While the fellowship was inspired by the pressing needs of immigrant women, the criteria for award of the fellowship is broader. The fellowship is available to students working for a public interest/service organization whose work advances the rights of women and/or immigrants; the organization does not need to “specialize” in or solely address issues related to the rights of women and/or immigrants. Further, the applicant need not work only on issues related to the rights of women and/or immigrants during the term of the fellowship, as long as some of the applicant’s work will help advance such rights. The extent to which the work advances the rights of women and/or immigrants will be just one factor in awarding the fellowship.

The following list includes a few examples of work that would qualify for the fellowship and is not intended to narrow the scope of qualified work.

* An effort directed towards providing legal assistance to individuals facing discrimination because of their status as a woman and/or immigrant.
* An effort seeking to protect or advance the civil rights of women and/or immigrants.
* An effort to address bias in the legal system against women and/or immigrants.
* An effort to protect women and/or immigrants from sexual harassment/domestic violence.
* An effort to provide women and/or immigrants access to healthcare, benefits, and legal aid.
* An effort to assist immigrants seeking asylum/reunification or fight detention/ deportation.

**Note that completed Application Packets, including a commitment letter completed by your proposed employer, must be returned by email no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 12, 2024. Please contact me if you are unable to obtain a commitment from the employer by this time.**

If you have any questions or comments regarding the application or selection process for the fellowship, please feel free to contact me. Best of luck!

Sincerely,

Monica L. Keo-Newton

ABAW Scholarship Chair

Monica.Keo-Newton@stoel.com

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**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

**Student Eligibility**

* All 1L, 2L, and 3L law students (part-time or full-time) pursuing a JD degree, and enrolled in and in good standing, at any of the three law schools within Washington State may apply for the fellowship. The fellowship will not be open to students who will be graduating in May or June of 2024.
* Grade point average and class rank are not considered in the selection process.
* Credit bearing work (i.e. externships, independent studies, etc.) cannot be funded by this fellowship.
* **Applicants should have accepted a firm offer from an employer, and should submit an Employer Profile Form, at the time the application is due. Please contact the Scholarship Chair if the employer you are working with is unable to provide you a commitment prior to the due date.**

**Employer Eligibility**

* The potential employer must provide substantive, supervised legal experiences for the applicant.
* **The potential employer must submit an Employer Profile Form by the application deadline. Please contact the Scholarship Chair if the employer you are working with is unable to provide you a commitment prior to the due date.**
* ABAWSSF will not provide funding for political campaigns.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

The recipient of the fellowship will be selected by a Selection Committee made up of members of the ABAWSSF and ABAW boards and others they may include. No employee of any of the law schools in Washington State will be on the selection committee. The following factors will be considered in awarding the fellowship:

* + - The applicant’s demonstrated commitment to, or interest in, advancing the legal rights of women and/or immigrants.
		- The proposed employer and the extent to which the employer works to advance the legal rights of women and/or immigrants.
		- The applicant’s job/project and how well that job/project furthers the employer’s efforts in advancing the legal rights of women and/or immigrants.
		- How well the applicant’s proposal will develop his/her/their legal skills and advance the applicant’s professional goals.
		- Whether the applicant has received a prior scholarship or fellowship from the ABAWSSF.
		- Any other factor(s) that the Selection Committee deems relevant to the selection.
		- Grade point average and class rank are not considered in the selection process.

**HOW TO APPLY**

Each applicant must: (1) submit a complete Applicant Information Form, (2) answer two short essay questions, (3) submit a complete Employer Profile Form, and (4) submit a resume. Completed application must be submitted electronically to Monica Keo-Newton, ABAW Scholarship Chair, at Monica.Keo-Newton@stoel.com **by 5:00 p.m. on April 12, 2024.** Select applicants will be selected for the interview phase to be held the following week and final selection of the fellowship recipient will be announced shortly thereafter.

**APPLICATION**

A completed application consists of three parts:

1. **Applicant Information Form**: Submit the Applicant Information Form electronically to Monica Keo-Newton as a Microsoft Word Document with the **title in the format of “Last Name – Applicant Info Form.”** In the subject line of your email, please include “Last Name - Spring Blossom Fellowship Application.” In the body of your email, please include your first and last name and your email address.
2. **Personal Statement**: Provide answers to questions (a) and (b) below, answered in that order. The word limit is *300 words per question*. Your answers should be double-spaced, with 1-inch margins on all sides, in 12-point Times New Roman font. Submit your Personal Statement as a Microsoft Word Document to Monica.Keo-Newton@stoel.com (along with your other application materials) with the **title in the format of “Last Name – PS.”**

(a) Please briefly describe the organization for which you will be working, how the organization works to advance the legal rights of women and/or immigrants, the specific work you will be doing (to the best of your knowledge), and why you want to do this work.

 (b) Please briefly describe how will this position advance your professional goals.

1. **Employer Profile**: Please provide the Employer Profile Form to your employer to complete. You are responsible for obtaining the completed form from your employer and submitting it with the rest of your application materials. Submit the Form as a Microsoft Word document to Monica.Keo-Newton@stoel.com (along with your other application materials) with a signature from your employer; electronic signatures will be accepted. **Title format should be “Last Name – EP.”** In the body of your email, please include your first and last name and your email address.
2. **Resume**: Please provide a copy of your professional resume. Submit your resume electronically to Monica.Keo-Newton@stoel.com as a Microsoft Word Document with the **title in the format of “Last Name – Resume.”**

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

The grant of up to $5,000.00 is provided for full time work (a full-time award is based on a minimum of 350 hours, which can be served, for example, by working 10 weeks at 35 hours/week). Any partial salary the applicant receives from the employer or from other sources (including other types of grant awards) may be subtracted from the maximum award; please notify the Scholarship Chair if you will receive funds during the summer from other sources. Applicants proposing to work less than full time (but at least 175 hours) will be considered, but the amount of the grant may be less than $5,000.00. Applicants receiving academic credit for their work (i.e. externships, independent studies, etc.) are not eligible for this fellowship.

* The fellowship recipient will be required to write a short article (about 500-750 words) for the ABAW/ABAWSSF website about his/her/their work and provide a photo. Further, the recipient is encouraged to get involved in ABAWSSF and, in particular, assist in encouraging applications for next year’s fellowship.
* The potential employer must be able to provide substantive, supervised legal experiences for the applicant. The fellowship will not be awarded for work that does not promote the development of legal skills, such as internships that require the applicant to do primarily administrative tasks such as photocopying or run errands.
* The fellowship must not be used for employer overhead expenses such as rent, telephones, or supplies.
* Once a fellowship is received, the recipient must contact his/her/their employer to request that the employer submit an **Acceptance Letter** to the ABAWSSF at the following address: Monica.Keo-Newton@stoel.com. The letter should state (a) that the applicant has accepted the offer of employment, (b) the number of weeks and the number of hours per week that the applicant will work, and (c) the name of the applicant’s supervisor.
* The ABAWSSF reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to change the dollar amount of the grant, the number of grants awarded, and/or to not award any grant in 2024.

**ABAWSSF Spring Blossom Fellowship Applicant Information Form**

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Local Address:

Local Phone Number:

Permanent Address (if different from above):

Law School:

Current Year in School:       Anticipated Graduation Date:

**Sponsoring Organization**

Organization Name

Organization Address

Organization Phone Number Contact Person (Name and Title)

Please check all applicable **legal category(ies)** into which your organization falls:

[ ]  Aging/ Elder Law [ ]  Consumer Protection & Debt [ ]  Criminal Appeals/Trial

[ ]  Disability [ ]  Employment/Farm Worker Rights [ ]  Environmental Justice

[ ]  Family Law/Domestic Violence [ ]  Government [ ]  Health Law

[ ]  Immigration [ ]  International Issues [ ]  Housing

[ ]  Native American/Indian Law [ ]  Public Benefits [ ]  Reproductive Justice

[ ]  Veterans [ ]  Youth/Education Law [ ]  General Legal Services[ ]  Other (please specify)

Please specify all **target population(s) or community(ies)** your organization will serve:

Please specify the **geographical region** your organization will serve:

[ ]  Seattle-Tacoma Area [ ]  Eastern Washington [ ]  Pacific Northwest (please specify)

[ ]  National (please specify)       [ ]  International (please specify)

Is your summer work full time or part time? [ ] Full-time [ ]  Part-time [ ]  Unsure

How much will your employer pay for your summer work? $

Have you applied for financial aid for the summer?

Anticipated summer income from other sources (including grants and scholarships): $