

**Eric D. Weissman Endowed Scholarship Fund
2022 Summer Stipend
&
Students for Public Interest Law (SPIL)
2022 Summer Stipend**

Combined Application

About the Stipend Programs

There are two CUA Law stipend programs that provide summer funding for students who will be interning at a public interest or public service organization (such as a non-profit organization, academic institution, or government agency): the SPIL Stipend and the Eric D. Weissman Endowed Scholarship Fund Stipend. These stipends support students pursuing public interest or public service careers by funding practical legal experiences and expanding the capacity of local organizations to provide high-quality legal services to underrepresented individuals, groups, and causes.

Only one application is required, as the recipient selection process is the same for both stipends. Both stipends provide the same amount of funding. Weissman Stipend recipients are encouraged to emphasize the extent to which their summer placement serves underrepresented individuals and groups. Please read the below application instructions closely.

SPIL Stipend

The SPIL Stipend is funded through CUA law student fundraising (primarily the Annual SPIL Auction) and other sources. Students for Public Interest Law (SPIL) was founded in 1989 to further our law school's commitment to providing public interest legal services. SPIL sponsors numerous community service and pro bono activities to provide students with public service interest law experience. Participation in each of these activities counts towards your application to qualify for a SPIL Summer Stipend, as explained by the requirements below.

Eric D. Weissman Endowed Scholarship Fund Stipend

In April 1995, Eric D. Weissman, tragically and without warning, lost his life just a year after graduating from the Columbus School of Law. Shortly after, his widow, friends, and family seeded the Eric D. Weissman Endowed Scholarship Fund as a way to carry on both his name and focus on helping the less fortunate through public and charitable service. The Scholarship memorializes and carries on Eric's work by encouraging our most dedicated students to work in meaningful positions in the public service sector. CUA law students who receive public service stipends are instilled with a passion and dedication to service that extends beyond graduation. Eric's legacy lives on through the work of the students who receive this stipend by providing a meaningful tribute to his own life and aspirations.

The Eric D. Weissman Endowed Scholarship Fund is intended to specially honor students who demonstrate an outstanding commitment to public interest law.

APPLICATION DETAILS

A. Important Dates

Friday April 15 at 5:00 p.m.

Stipend Application Deadline
(Late submissions not accepted)

Friday, April 29, 2022

Anticipated Stipend Recipients Announcement Date

B. Eligibility

To be eligible for either stipend, applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

1. Applicant is currently enrolled at the Columbus School of Law as a 1D, 1E, 2D, 2E, or 3E.
2. Applicant is a member of SPIL.
3. Applicant commits to obtaining a summer internship within the public interest and/or public service law sector.
4. Applicant's summer internship is compatible with the University's Mission Statement and Church teaching. (*See Special Note in paragraph 8 below*)
5. Applicant's employing organization is one of the following
 - a. Nonprofit organization providing legal services;
 - b. For-profit organization engaged in client pro bono services;
 - c. Prosecutor office;
 - d. Public defender office;
 - e. Federal, state, or local government agency;
 - f. Judiciary (clerkship);
 - g. International public interest work; or
 - h. Labor union.
6. In order to qualify for a stipend, a student must:
 - a. Complete 6 Community Service Hours
 - b. Complete 6 Pro Bono Hours
 - c. Complete 6 General SPIL Hours
7. If you are unable to satisfy the requirements in paragraph 6 due to the special circumstances surrounding the 2022 spring semester, you may submit an addendum explaining (a) your anticipated service and pro bono requirements that were unable to be fulfilled and (b) your estimated hours and the nature of the volunteer work itself.
8. *Special Note – following the evaluation of all applications and subsequent provisional selection of stipend recipients, relevant application information will be provided to the Law School's Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Dean of Students at the Law School, and, subsequently, to the Provost of The Catholic University of America for final approval of placements. The Provost's Office must approve all student placements before stipend funds are released. All of a sponsoring organization's activities (not just those in which a stipend recipient participates) must accord with the [University's Mission Statement](#) and Church*

teaching.

9. Recipients must complete all required documentation listed in Section H and upload to the SPIL TWEN page under “Assignment & Quizzes” by Friday, April 15 at 5:00 pm. Late submissions will not be accepted.
10. Applicants commit to provide a post-summer summary about their experience, emphasizing outcomes with respect to providing services to underrepresented individuals, groups, or causes. This summary is due on or before the first day of class for Fall 2022.

C. Stipend Compensation Description

1. Recipients are awarded funding for one placement only; awards may not be “split” among multiple placements.
2. The stipend is for a maximum of \$5,000.
3. Typically, recipients will receive the full stipend amount upon working eight 40-hour weeks. Recipients are encouraged to continue their internships after the full stipend amount has been earned. Recipients may receive pro bono credit for unpaid hours, assuming all other CUA Law Pro Bono criteria are met.
4. Direct deposit will be delivered to recipients in two payments; one at the outset of the summer placement, and the second at a time to be determined by the law school and subsequent to confirmation of the student’s continued participation in the internship.
5. The receipt of a stipend will not affect a student’s financial aid for either the concurrent summer session or the subsequent academic year.

D. Stipend Recipient Future Commitments

1. Recipients must submit their offer letter/email from the employing organization as confirmation that they will be working within the public interest and/or public service sector immediately upon acceptance of the internship, if not provided as part of the recipient’s Combined Stipend application. (Applicants should submit an offer letter at the time of application, if possible.)
2. Recipients will be required to prepare and submit a summary of their summer experience by the **first day of class Fall 2022**.
3. Recipients are encouraged to submit a photograph from their internship for the purpose of promoting the Summer Stipend programs.
4. **Recipients must maintain their status as a registered Columbus School of Law student during the concurrent summer session and subsequent academic year and must continue to be an active member in SPIL the subsequent academic year.**

E. Supplemental Compensation

Additional compensation provided by a recipient’s employer may not increase a recipient’s total earnings above \$5,000. If a recipient expects to receive supplemental compensation, they must contact Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Katherine Crowley (crowleykm@law.edu).

F. Power to Revoke/Forfeiture

The Columbus School of Law, in association with The Catholic University of America, Office of the Provost, retains the authority to revoke an award, recoup funds, and resolve any disputes regarding stipend eligibility.

The student agrees that the stipend will be forfeited in the following nonexclusive circumstances:

1. Recipient does not maintain his or her status as a Columbus School of Law student during the concurrent summer session and subsequent academic year;
2. There is a material change to the employing organization described in the application;
3. Recipient obtains a summer internship in an area other than public interest and/or public service law; or
4. Recipient does not meet any of the other obligations described herein.

Recipient agrees to notify the Columbus School of Law immediately upon the occurrence of any of the circumstances listed above and to repay all funds paid to the Recipient under this Program within thirty (30) calendar days of the earlier of the Recipient's notification to the Columbus School of Law and a demand for repayment by the Columbus School of Law.

G. Selection Process

A Selection Committee familiar with public interest and/or public service law will evaluate applications *anonymously* based on the following criteria:

1. Applicant's demonstrated commitment to public interest and/or public service law (as described in their responses to the Application Questions essay prompts);
2. Applicant's contributions to SPIL, as verified by the current SPIL President(s);
3. Applicant's completion of the requisite Stipend Requirements, as verified by the current SPIL President(s);
4. Degree to which the internship work described in the application will benefit the public interest and/or public service (as described in their responses to the Application Questions essay prompts).
5. ***Applicable for Weisman Stipend consideration: the degree to which the internship work will benefit underrepresented individuals, groups, or causes.***

H. Required Forms/Documents

Please submit the following via the SPIL TWEN page under "Assignment & Quizzes" by **5:00 pm on Friday, April 15:**

1. Recipient and Organization Information
2. Acknowledgment Page
3. Application Questions
4. Current Résumé with name, address, phone, and email redacted
5. SPIL Stipend Requirement Hour Log (Spreadsheet)

6. Offer Letter/Email (Alternatively, if applicant has not yet confirmed an internship, submit to rochan@cua.edu AND wargel@cua.edu immediately upon confirmation.)

I. Questions?

Please direct all questions to Nicole Rocha, rochan@cua.edu, or Nicole Wargel at wargel@cua.edu

Recipient and Organization Information

Recipient Information

Name: _____

Year (circle one): 1D 1E 2D 2E 3E

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Other CUA-paid employment (circle one): no yes

If yes, who is the employer?

Organization Information

Organization Name: _____

Organization Address: _____

Supervisor Name: _____

Supervisor Position: _____

Supervisor Phone Number: _____

Supervisor Email Address: _____

Acknowledgement

With my signature, I affirm the following:

1. I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the information included in this packet, including the requirement that all my sponsoring organization's activities accord with the University's Mission Statement and Church teaching;
2. I intend to maintain my status as a Columbus School of Law student during the concurrent summer session and subsequent academic year;
3. I understand that I must provide confirmation to the Law School that I am participating in my internship upon request.

Signature (applicant may e-sign by typing “/s/First Name Last Name”):

Date:

			Total:

Certification

I hereby certify that the hours _____
 reported on this form are correct and accurate.

_____ Applicant Name: _____

Date:

(applicant may e-sign by typing “/s/First Name Last Name”)