



HUMAN RIGHTS CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

## COOPER FELLOWSHIP IN REFUGEE & IMMIGRANT RIGHTS

**Employer:** The Advocates for Human Rights

**Contact:** Sarah Brenes, Program Director (Advocates); Amanda Lyons (Human Rights Center)

**Job Title:** Cooper Fellow/Law Clerk – Refugee & Immigrant Program

**Description:** The Advocates for Human Rights welcomes two UMN law school students to assist with its Refugee & Immigrant Program over the summer as 2021 Cooper Fellows. The position will focus on serving the legal needs of low-income persons seeking asylum in the United States. The Cooper Fellows will receive a stipend of \$5000 for 400 hours of work and the opportunity to do important and critical legal work on behalf of economically disadvantaged immigrant clients.

The Advocates for Human Rights is a non-governmental, non-profit human rights agency located in Minneapolis working locally, nationally, and internationally to protect and promote human rights. This position is part of the UMN Human Rights Center's Fellowship Program and made possible through the generous support of Prof. Laura & Mr. Ben Cooper.

**Experience/Education Requirements:** 1L or 2L University of Minnesota Law School students with an interest in and commitment to providing high quality legal work for low-income immigrant clients in a fast-paced office setting. Prior course work, work experience, or clinical experience in immigration and/or human rights law is a plus. Excellent research, oral and written communication skills; organized; and detail-oriented. Fluency in a second language is a plus but not required.

**Job Duties:** Duties will include intake, legal and human rights research, preparation of cases for volunteer attorneys, preparation of asylum applications and affidavits, and assistance with other related immigration applications. Potentially represent clients at initial administrative immigration hearings.

### To Apply:

Submit to the HRC:

- the HRC fellowship application form (available online);
- a cover letter addressed to Sarah Brenes describing your interest in the internship;
- your resume;
- your unofficial law school and undergrad transcripts; and
- one letter of recommendation (optional).

You must submit a complete application to the HRC by Tuesday, February 23, 2021 (12:00pm) to be considered. **Please send all documents as a single email with the subject line "FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION" to Emily Haeg Nguyen at [haeg0028@umn.edu](mailto:haeg0028@umn.edu)**

Students are required to complete an orientation in April and participate in a follow-up activity in the Fall. See the Human Rights Center website for instructions on how to apply.

**Selection Criteria:** The Summer Law Clerks will be selected based on their written applications as well as interviews, appropriate references, and other relevant information. Selection shall include consideration of the following criteria: 1. Commitment to community work as demonstrated by present and previous community involvement, as well as the student's statement of such commitment in the cover letter. 2. A bona fide interest in a legal services career.