



# 2026 Fellowship for Opportunity & Access

## The Fellowship

- > \$10,000 stipend to spend the summer of 2026 (8 weeks minimum) working in an unpaid position on legal matters for an environmental or energy governmental agency or public interest organization in New York State. (The applicant need not have identified a summer internship prior to applying for the fellowship. After a 2026 fellowship awardee has been selected, members of the Section can assist the awardee in searching for a summer internship placement.)
- > Invitation to attend event celebrating the Fellowship and individual Fellows during annual meeting of the Environmental & Energy Law Section
- > Publication of awardee's summary of their internship and Fellowship experience in the Environmental & Energy Law Section publication *The Environmental Lawyer*
- > Pairing with mentor from the environmental or energy bar

## Fellowship Eligibility Criteria

First-year, second-year, and third-year (night students only) students who identify as members of disproportionately less represented groups in the legal profession who: 1) are enrolled in a law school in New York State; or 2) are permanent New York State residents, and enrolled in a law school in the United States; and 3) will not graduate from law school before December 2026. Disproportionately less represented groups in the legal profession include historically marginalized communities, minority racial and ethnic groups, first-generation college graduates, persons with disabilities, and those who identify with marginalized sexual orientation and gender identities.

Applicants should have a demonstrated interest in environmental and/or energy issues, and a strong academic record (undergraduate and/or law school). (A law school course in environmental or energy law is **not** a prerequisite.)

All applicants must be a member of NYSBA and the Environmental & Energy Law Section. Membership is free for law students.

## Application Requirements

- > Completed application form
- > Resume
- > Undergraduate Transcript
- > Law school transcript
- > Essay describing
  - applicant's interest in environmental or energy issues
  - Reasons for wanting to participate in the Fellowship
  - a statement describing how you meet each of the Fellowship eligibility criteria
- > Two letters of recommendation



## Application Deadline

**February 20, 2026**

Email completed application form and required supporting documents to Lori Randle at [lrandle@nysba.org](mailto:lrandle@nysba.org)

Detailed information may be obtained by contacting [lrandle@nysba.org](mailto:lrandle@nysba.org) or online at **[NYSBA.ORG/EELSFELLOWSHIP](https://www.nysba.org/EELSFELLOWSHIP)**



# 2026 Fellowship for Opportunity & Access



**Application Deadline**  
**February 20, 2026**

## Application Form

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Permanent Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School Address (if different from permanent address):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Law School Attending:** \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Day student ☐ Evening student ☐ First year ☐ Second year ☐ Third year (evening only)

**Anticipated Date of Graduation from Law School:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Prior Education

College Name	Address	Major	Dates Attended	Degree
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### Attach the following supporting materials to this application:

1. A resume describing your prior employment and other relevant activities and qualifications.
2. An undergraduate transcript, and a law school transcript. (Transcripts need not be certified; finalists may be asked to provide certified transcripts.)
3. An essay (maximum: two double-spaced typewritten pages) describing your interest in environmental or energy issues, reasons for wanting to participate in the Fellowship and a statement describing how you meet each of the eligibility criteria.
4. Two letters of recommendation. (These may be the same as used for law school applications. If these letters are confidential, they may be sent directly to the Fellowship Committee at address below.)

### Certification

I hereby certify that all the statements contained and information provided in this application, and in the attachments hereto, are truthful, to the best of my knowledge and that I meet the eligibility requirements for the Fellowship for Opportunity & Access.

I further certify that I am a member of the NYSBA and the Environmental & Energy Law Section or that my application for free membership is attached.

**Applicant's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email completed application form and required supporting documents to Lori Randle at: [lrandle@nysba.org](mailto:lrandle@nysba.org)**