

UND School of Law Summer Scholarship Programs

Edson and Margaret Larson Foundation North Dakota Summer Rural Justice Scholarship

Launched the summer of 2015, these summer scholarships are intended to help students offset summer expenses while working in a summer law-related position with a law firm, state's attorney office, or indigent defense office in any North Dakota community other than Grand Forks, Fargo/West Fargo, Bismarck/Mandan, or Minot. Starting with the summer 2020 this scholarship was extended to include qualifying geographic rural judicial clerkships due to the limited funding through the rural justice judicial clerkship fund and the large number of students and judges willing to participate. It is expected that the student will live in and experience the life in the rural community where their placement is. We have found these funded experiences are very successful in introducing law students to the variety of opportunities in rural communities early in their law school education. This program is supported through the generous donation of The Edson and Margaret Larson Foundation.

Grade point average and class rank are not considered in the selection process, all confirmed students in qualified placements at the time of selection will be considered for funding. Students committed to working full-time (350-400 hours) during the summer will be given priority consideration for available funding. The selection process happens in May and is coordinated through the externship program. The students selected receive their scholarship once the Law School is notified that they have started their position. All funding runs through the Office of Financial Aid. As part of the requirement to receive funding, students must agree to certify their post summer experience hours, submit a post experience essay, and give permission for the University to publicly release their name and placement information.

Summer 2015: 4 Students received \$6,000 each
Summer 2016: 4 Students received \$6,000 each
Summer 2017: 11 Students received \$3,000 – \$5,000 each
Summer 2018: 10 Students received \$3,500 - \$5,000 each
Summer 2019: 5 Students received \$5,000 each
Summer 2020: 9 Students received \$3,000 - \$6,000 each
Summer 2021: 14 Students received \$1,500 - \$7,000 each

The UND School of Law Summer Public Interest Grants

These grants are open to rising second- and third-year UND law students who are not receiving a hourly wage as compensation in exchange for working for a qualified public interest organization or the wage they are receiving is nominal. For this grant, the definition of a public interest placement is one that focuses on serving client populations that are indigent or traditionally underserved. This program is supported through private alumni donors and a longstanding annual commitment from the North Dakota Bar Foundation.

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As part of the requirement to receive funding, students must agree to certify their post summer experience hours, submit a post experience essay, and give permission for the University to publicly release their name and placement information.

Summer 2014: 5 Students received \$1,500 - \$3,000
Summer 2015: 4 Students received \$2,500 - \$4,000
Summer 2016: 6 Students received \$1,000 - \$2,000

Summer 2017: 11 Students received \$500 - \$2,000
Summer 2018: 10 Students received \$1,000 - \$2,250 each
Summer 2019: 8 Students received \$500 - \$3,000 each
Summer 2020: 6 Students received \$2,000 - \$4,000 each
Summer 2021: 10 Students received \$500 - \$2,500 each

The UND School of Law Rural Justice Judicial Clerkship Program

This program was launched the summer of 2014 as a joint venture between the State Bar Association, the School of Law and the Court System as an effort to increase law student awareness of the many opportunities for practice in rural communities. Stipends for students working as rural law clerks were initially funded by the North Dakota Supreme Court; however, this program is currently being funded through an annual commitment by the State Bar Association of North Dakota. It is expected that the student will live in and experience the life in the rural community where their judge is chambered. Although reviewed annually, qualifying locations include Cavalier, Grafton, Bottineau, Rugby, Wahpeton, New Rockford, Ellendale, Watford City, Devils Lake, Valley City, and Bowman.

Grade point average and class rank are not considered in the selection process, all confirmed students in qualified clerkship at the time of selection will be considered for funding. Students committed to working full-time (350-400 hours) during the summer will be given priority consideration for available funding. The selection process happens in May and is coordinated through the externship program. The students selected receive their scholarship once the Law School is notified that they have started their position. All funding runs through the Office of Financial Aid.

As part of the requirement to receive funding, students must agree to certify their post summer experience hours, submit a post experience essay, and give permission for the University to publicly release their name and placement information.

Summer 2014: 2 Students received (up to) \$4,000 each
Summer 2015: No participants
Summer 2016: 2 Students received \$3,600 each
Summer 2017: 2 Students received \$5,400 each
Summer 2018: 3 Students received \$2,800 - \$4,000 each
Summer 2019: 2 Students received \$5,400 each
Summer 2020: 4 Students received \$500 - \$4,000 each
Summer 2021: 3 Students received \$3,000 - \$4000 each

UND Rural MN Clerkship Grant

Newly funded program started in summer 2020 through UND private endowment funds. This stipend support a student working a judicial law clerk in a rural Minnesota court during the summer. It is expected that the student will live in and experience the life in the rural community where their judge is chambered. Grade point average and class rank are not considered in the selection process, all confirmed students in qualified clerkship at the time of selection will be considered for funding. Students committed to working full-time (350-400 hours) during the summer will be given priority consideration for available funding. The selection process happens in May and is coordinated through the externship program. The students selected receive their scholarship once the Law School is notified that they have started their position. All funding runs through the Office of Financial Aid.

As part of the requirement to receive funding, students must agree to certify their post summer experience hours, submit a post experience essay, and give permission for the University to publicly release their name and placement information.

Summer 2020: 2 Students received \$1,500 each
Summer 2021: 1 Student received \$1,500 each