



SABANY

SOUTH ASIAN BAR ASSOCIATION
OF NEW YORK

PUBLIC INTEREST FELLOWSHIP 2021 FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION

Thank you for your interest in the **2021 SOUTH ASIAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK (“SABANY”) PUBLIC INTEREST FELLOWSHIP**. SABANY plans to award at least three grants (in amounts generally ranging from \$2,000 to \$4,000)¹ to law students or recent law graduates who will be working in unpaid public-interest jobs in the New York City and New York Greater Metropolitan area during the summer of 2021. As you begin the application process, please carefully read the requirements and instructions below. You may also download the application from the SABANY website at www.sabany.org.

About SABANY

SABANY is an organization of South Asian attorneys practicing in the New York Metropolitan region. SABANY is dedicated to ensuring the civil liberties of the South Asian community in New York, by acting as a conduit between the South Asian community and legal services and educational programs in the area. In addition, SABANY is committed to promoting the professional development of the South Asian legal community through networking, advocacy and mentoring. It is SABANY’s goal to educate South Asian Americans about the legal system and to encourage more participation by the South Asian community in the legal profession. More information about SABANY is available at www.sabany.org.

Application Instructions:

- Completed applications must be submitted to **sabanyfellowship@gmail.com** no later than **5:00 p.m. on March 19, 2021**. Applicants will be notified of the selection committee’s decision on a rolling basis and grant recipients will be recognized in a virtual acknowledgement ceremony and, pending public health guidelines, may be invited to our fellowship reception later in the year.

¹ Additional grants may be awarded based upon available funding. Similarly, the maximum amount awardable in an individual grant may also be increased based upon available funding.

- A complete application consists of:
 - Part I (*Applicant & Host Organization Information*);
 - Part II (*Job Description*);
 - Part III (*Personal Statement & Resume*); and
 - Part IV (*Financial Need*).
- Please submit your application in two separate documents (PDF or Microsoft-Word compatible) attached to one email. Document 1 should contain Part I of the application (the Applicant & Host Organization Information). Document 2 should contain Parts II-IV of the application. As noted below, the letter from the organization can be submitted via email with the completed application by **March 19, 2021**.
- **Your name should NOT appear anywhere** in Parts II-IV of the application. The judges will not be provided with names of the applicants, and the applications will be evaluated based on the point system outlined in the application.

Eligibility Requirements:

To apply for the SABANY Public Interest Fellowship, you must:

- (1) Demonstrate financial need; and
- (2) Not already have received the SABANY Fellowship; and
- (3) Be one of the following²:
 - A first or second-year law student of South Asian descent who will be spending at least ten (10) weeks of the summer of 2021 in an unpaid³ law-related public interest⁴ internship in New York State or the greater metropolitan area⁵, or

² While this list includes most categories of criteria that would qualify an applicant for the fellowship, SABANY understands it is not exhaustive and reserves the right to award fellowships to those who do not neatly fit into one of these categories.

³ Please include in Part IV of the application any potential stipends provided by your host organization. Receipt of such a stipend does **not** automatically qualify the internship as paid or unpaid; such determination is made on a case-by-case basis by the selection committee.

⁴ Law-related public interest positions include, but are not limited to, law-related positions serving the broader public (or a sub-community thereof) and local, state or federal government agencies or departments.

⁵ “New York State or the greater metropolitan area” means New York State, the counties of Hudson, Essex, Bergen, Union, Passaic, Morris, and Middlesex in New Jersey, and the county of Fairfield in Connecticut.

- A first or second-year law student attending a New York State or greater metropolitan area law school who will be spending at least ten (10) weeks of the summer of 2021 in an unpaid public interest legal internship in New York State or the greater metropolitan area, which specifically focuses on the needs of the local South Asian community, or
- A first or second-year law student attending a New York State or greater metropolitan area law school who will be spending at least ten (10) weeks of the summer of 2021 in an unpaid public interest legal internship in South Asia; or
- A recent law graduate (who graduated no earlier than 2020/will graduate from law school in 2021) of South Asian descent who has obtained an unpaid public interest legal internship or volunteer legal position at a public interest organization in New York State or the greater metropolitan area; or
- A recent law graduate (who graduated no earlier than 2020/will graduate from law school in 2021) who has obtained an unpaid public interest legal internship or volunteer legal position at a public interest organization in New York State or the greater metropolitan area which specifically focuses on the needs of the local South Asian community.

Terms of the Fellowship:

By submitting an application electronically, each applicant certifies that all statements contained in the application are true and correct, and consents to the following terms:

- SABANY reserves the right to change the number of fellowships awarded, the amount of the Fellowship, or whether a Fellowship is awarded in 2021;
- The Fellowship recipient must immediately notify SABANY in writing if the recipient (a) leaves the identified summer position early, (b) changes host organizations, or (c) becomes subject to academic discipline or ceases to become enrolled in law school; and
- The Fellowship recipient agrees to submit a brief report following the completion of the internship and consents to SABANY using his or her name and the report in future SABANY events or endeavors.
- The Fellowship recipient must notify SABANY of any other sources of funding that he or she will receive to support the unpaid internship for the summer of 2021. Such sources include stipends from host organization, funds from other employers, or other public interest grants for either the SABANY Public Interest Fellowship-funded position or any other work. Recipients may only receive a total of \$6,000 in fellowship awards, including the SABANY fellowship, for the summer of 2021.

If you have any questions about the application process or the Fellowship, please send an email to sabanyfellowship@gmail.com. This application may be copied and distributed freely.

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PART I: Applicant & Host Organization Information

A. Applicant Information

Name

Law School

Graduation Date (mo/yr)

Local Address

City/State/Zip Code

Telephone Number

Email Address

Please indicate which one of the following best describes you:

_____ A first or second-year law student of South Asian descent who will be spending at least ten weeks of the summer of 2021 in an unpaid public interest legal internship in New York State and the greater metropolitan area, or

_____ A first or second-year law student who will be spending at least ten weeks of the summer of 2021 in an unpaid legal internship in New York State and the greater metropolitan area which specifically focuses on the needs of the local South Asian community, or

_____ A first or second-year law student who will be spending at least ten weeks of the summer of 2021 in an unpaid legal internship in South Asia; or

_____ A recent law graduate of South Asian descent (who graduated no earlier than 2020/will graduate from law school in 2021) who has obtained an unpaid public interest

legal internship or volunteer legal position at a public interest organization in New York State.

_____ A recent law graduate (who graduated no earlier than 2020/will graduate from law school in 2021) has obtained an unpaid public interest legal internship or volunteer legal position at a public interest organization in New York State or the greater metropolitan area which specifically focuses on the needs of the local South Asian community.

_____ Other (Please explain):

Please indicate how you learned about SABANY's Public Interest Fellowship.

B. Host Organization Information

In addition to the information below, please submit a letter from your host organization confirming the offer of a summer internship, the dates of the internship, and that the internship is unpaid. Note: A letter from the host organization is not required if you have not yet received an offer. Please send this letter to SABANY by email, as a scanned image, at sabanyfellowship@gmail.com. The email should contain your name and a note that the attached document completes your SABANY Public Interest Fellowship application. **The deadline is March 19, 2021 by 5pm.**

Host Organization:

Name _____

Contact Person _____

Tel. _____ Email _____

Mailing Address _____

City/State/Zip Code _____

Do you have an offer yet? Yes ____ No ____

If not, when do you expect to know whether you have received an _____ offer?

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PART II: Job Description

Instructions:

1. Word limit: 200. Please indicate the number of words at the end of your job description.
2. Please do not include your name anywhere on this part of the application.

Topics:

Please discuss the following:

1. The name of the host organization, the host organization's mission, and the community that is served by the host organization; and
2. The specific work you will perform.

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PART III: Personal Statement & Resume

Part III of this application consists of two sections: your personal statement and your resume.

1. Personal Statement

- ***Instructions:***

- Word limit: 750. Please indicate the number of words at the end of your essay.
- Please do not include your name or any other information that may identify you anywhere on this part of the application.

- ***Topics:***

- Please discuss:
 - Why you selected the proposed internship(s);
 - Your interest in public service and how the internship(s) relate(s) to this interest;
 - If you have had only limited past involvement in public interest activities, please explain what has sparked your current interest.

2. Resume

- ***Instructions:***

- Identification: Please remove your name, address and telephone number from the top of each page of your resume.
- Please note that crossing through your name, address and phone number does not always render them unreadable.

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PART IV: Financial Need

Instructions:

- Please do not include your name anywhere on this part of the application.

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Financial Need (this information will remain confidential and will not be released by SABANY)

1. Please identify other sources of funding that you anticipate receiving to help support your unpaid internship for the summer of 2021. Such sources include stipends from your summer host organization, funds from other employers, or other public interest grants for either the SABANY Public Interest Fellowship-funded position or any other work.

Grant/Scholarship/Source of Funding	Status of Application	Amount Awarded

2. (Optional) Please briefly explain any extenuating circumstances SABANY should consider in evaluating your financial need, including education-related debt. Please note, however, that some circumstances are so common that SABANY will not consider them extenuating. For example, extenuating circumstances do not include credit card debt, not having parental financial support during or after law school, paying double rent during the summer, etc. Please limit your response to 250 words and please indicate the word count at the end of your response.