

Student Defense Seeks Fellowship Candidate

Student Defense intends to host a Legal Fellow to begin in fall 2026. We hope to host a new attorney who is interested in addressing how new and developing technologies like artificial intelligence are impacting student recruitment and the student experience in higher education programs.

Eligibility Guideposts

- A rising 3L or current judicial law clerk;
- Admission to the D.C. Bar or intention to take the bar exam no later than July 2026;
- Academic achievement and practical work experience demonstrating a strong work ethic;
- Strong research, analytical, and oral and written communication skills;
- Sound judgment and creativity in developing legal theories;
- Strong organizational and interpersonal skills and the ability to work independently in a small, startup-like environment; and
- Interest in litigation and advocacy on behalf of students to increase accountability and improve systems that impact students.

Fellow's Responsibilities

Prior to the fellowship, in the summer of 2025, the candidate will be expected to lead the effort to apply for outside fellowship funding from sources including Equal Justice Works and Skadden. In partnership with the Student Defense team, the candidate will develop a project that advances Student Defense's mission of using litigation and advocacy to promote governmental and institutional accountability in higher education.

During the fellowship, the fellow will lead work on the project with Student Defense's full support. In addition to working with the fellow to carry out the goals of the project, Student Defense commits to providing opportunities for professional development, structured mentorship and supervision, and timely written and oral feedback.

Application Requirements

- Cover letter expressing your interest in Student Defense, and, if applicable, fellowship project ideas
- Resume
- Law school transcript
- Writing sample
- Three references

Location: Washington, D.C. area is preferred

Please apply by emailing careers@defendstudents.org.