



Social Justice Fellowship Program

Guide for Faculty Advisors

Thank you for your time and expertise as a Faculty Supervisor with the Windsor Law Alumni Summer Social Justice Fellowship (SJF) Program. The Program is intended to support students interested in obtaining exposure to social justice advocacy and to enhance the capacity of future social justice lawyers. The SJF Program is designed to enable Fellows to experience enriching professional and intellectual opportunities. This Guide will set out the basic contours of Windsor Law's Social Justice Fellowship program, including our policies and best practices for student supervision.

Please find a the [SJF Student Manual](#) here.

The heart of the SJF Program is "learning from experience". Learning from experience can be quite different from learning from reading or in a classroom setting. Both forms of learning are important and can be complementary. Faculty Advisors can strengthen connections between the strictly academic portions of the Windsor Law degree program and the hands-on, practice context the Fellow is experiencing in the placement.

Social Justice Fellows work in a wide variety of settings. No placement is identical. However, by the end of the summer, students should be able to:

1. Observe and engage in access to justice-related work, and to reflect critically on the availability and quality of justice in a law-related setting
2. Practice within the structure and purpose of each workplace setting and adapt to the various roles of a lawyer in these settings
3. Hone oral and written communication skills in a law-related practice setting
4. Identify and apply ethical and professional norms, including critical perspectives on dominant ethical and professional norms

Please check in with the student before the end of term and set up a plan for regular meetings with the student. These meetings can be any length. Students will often take a bit more time at the beginning and decrease in required time as they become more experienced.

The student's contract contemplates a full-time commitment for no less that ten weeks between May 1 and August 31, 2020. Social Justice Fellows receive their first installment (except Debwewin) before the placement. The balance of the Fellowship Funds will be provided after receipt of the Experience Report and Critical Reflection (September 2020). Fellowships, each in the amount of \$5,000 CDN, will be awarded for international or domestic placements. Additional funds may be available to support extraordinary travel costs.

The student is required to submit, **before 12 noon on Monday, September 20, 2021**, an **Experience Report** to you with a copy to the [Student Services Office](#). In general, this report will include a description of the work completed, details of any problems encountered, and suggestions for improving the experience in the future.

Students are also required to prepare an end of placement a Critical Reflection (10 pages), to be submitted to you and [Student Services Office](#). Please review the [Guidelines for the Critical Reflection](#) with the student. Rather than spending significant amounts of time *describing* an incident, students should focus on their

responses, reactions, and reflections. A paper that is solely descriptive does not meet the goals of the exercise, because description alone does not offer reflection and analysis. Students should write in the first person.

As Advisor, you do not need to grade the Report or the Reflection. Please confirm that it meets the requirements and provide brief feedback for the Reflective Assignment. You might provide this feedback as a **final debriefing** meeting after the end of the placement.

All Fellows are required to attend an online Orientation Session. Topics include cultural safety, ethics and professionalism, workplace health & safety. The placement organization may be an open and friendly workplace; nonetheless, students are at a significant power imbalance. Students are often aware of their place in the office and can be afraid to ask questions for fear of appearing incompetent. Faculty Supervisors can provide opportunities for students speak openly and honestly will encourage better professional relationships.

The following are supports that have been made available to the Fellows in the [SJF Student Manual](#). Please feel welcome to refer students to any of these services.

For help addressing mental or physical health concerns, contact 519 253-3000:

Student Health Services	x 7002	http://www1.uwindsor.ca/health/
Student Counselling Centre	x 4616	http://www.uwindsor.ca/studentcounselling/
Student Accessibility Services	x 6172	http://www.uwindsor.ca/studentaccessibility/297/student-information
Windsor Law Elder In Residence ¹	X 2983	http://www.uwindsor.ca/law/1143/elder-residence
Sexual Misconduct Response & Prevention Office	X 4550	http://www.uwindsor.ca/sexual-assault/
Peer Support Centre	x 4551	http://www.uwsa.ca/uwsa-services/psc/

Helpful Off-Campus Resources:

JustBalance.ca – Support for Law Students	Referral to local community resources	https://www.justbalance.ca/school/university-windsor/
Member Assistance Program	1.855.403.8922	http://www.myassistplan.com/
Good2Talk	1.866.925.5454	https://good2talk.ca/

We appreciate feedback on what is working and what needs improvement. We also appreciate feedback as the summer progresses with each student. Please connect with me to share any questions or concerns (tess.sheldon@uwindsor.ca).

¹ Note that the Elder in Residence Program may not be available during the summer months.