

/ Law Student Frequently Asked Questions

When does the 2025 Rural Summer Legal Corps program start and end?

The Rural Summer Legal Corps program will operate between May-August 2025. Regardless of when Fellows begin, accepted participants must complete the required 300 hours of service by September 1, 2025.

What is the application deadline?

Applications must be received by Tuesday, February 11, 2025.

When will the applications be evaluated?

Applications will be evaluated immediately after the deadline. Equal Justice Works will screen applications and refer candidates to host organizations based on caliber of application, location preference, and legal aid provider need. Host Organizations will contact candidates directly to conduct interviews and refer selections to Equal Justice Works for final offers no later than April 1, 2025.

What if I applied several weeks ago and still have not heard from Equal Justice Works?

Upon submission, you will receive confirmation that your application was received through the webpage confirmation page and email. Equal Justice Works will review your application and refer to potential host organizations as needed throughout March 2025. All inquiries should be directed to ruralcorps@equaljusticeworks.org.

What are the eligibility requirements to serve as a Rural Summer Legal Corps Member?

All applicants must:

- Complete their first or second year of law school at an Equal Justice Works member law school by the start of their summer placement

- Be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national or lawful permanent resident (e.g., green card).
- For some host sites, possess a valid driver's license and access to adequate transportation during summer placement.
- For some host sites, have a language proficiency other than English

What do I need before applying?

Before submitting your application, view the 2025 host site projects and be prepared to choose your top three location choices. Applicants will be asked to provide a resume and a personal statement describing the candidate's interest in the program.

How does the placement process work?

Applicants will apply using the online application and choose their top three host site preferences when applying. After the deadline of February 11, Fellows will hear back from host sites if they have been chosen for interviews. Host sites have until April 1, 2025 to make their final selections.

Will I be paid for my Rural Summer Legal Corps service?

Participants will receive a taxable \$7,000 stipend for their service. Students have the option to apply for unlimited additional outside funding through their university or other sources.

Can I receive outside compensation as a Rural Summer Legal Corps Member?

Yes. You may receive funding in the form of a grant, stipend or living allowance for your term of service outside of the \$7,000 stipend (i.e. part-time job, general scholarship for law school).

What is the hour requirement and timeline for the Rural Summer Legal Corps?

Student Fellows must work a minimum of 300 hours and complete the hours before September 1, 2025. The Fellowship begins with a two-day kick-off training in May in

Washington D.C. and then students head off to their Fellowships. There are projects with schedules beginning before the training, and others beginning after the training.

Can I split my 300 hours between two or more host organizations?

No. All 300 service hours must be completed with one host organization.

Does the kick-off training count towards the 300-hour requirement?

Yes, the training counts towards the 300 hours.

Where can I serve?

[View 2025 Host Organizations.](#)

What are the host organization's main responsibilities?

The host organization, by participating in Rural Summer Legal Corps and hosting a student, agrees to supervise the law student for the 8-10 week program, and ensure that the law student is serving clients in rural locations.

Can I work beyond the end of my Rural Summer Legal Corps service term if I still have hours to complete?

No. The minimum 300 service hours must be completed by September 1, 2025. You may, however, work more than 300 hours if agreed-upon between you and your supervisor.

Is housing provided during the Fellowship?

No, Fellows are responsible for coordinating their own housing accommodations. Several sites are happy to help students find housing or provide housing recommendations, so please ask your host site if you are selected for the program if they can assist you.

What are the exit procedures for Rural Summer Legal Corps?

Participants must work 300 hours, certify their time logs, and complete a final survey relating to their service by September 1, 2025.

How do I receive my stipend?

Participants will receive their \$7,000 stipend directly from their host organization. More details will be provided upon acceptance.

Can students take time off during their Fellowships?

Yes, Fellows may take time off during their Fellowship as long as they meet the 300-hour requirement by September 1, 2025, and discuss the leave with their host site.