



## HPILF Grant Application 2019 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ's)

### *How do I apply?*

Applicants will submit their applications through Blackbaud anytime from **March 1, 2019** through **March 19, 2019 at 11:59 PM**. Blackbaud is the same online platform that students can use to apply for scholarships. Applicants can use their Hastings email address and password as a single sign on.

### *Where can I find the application?*

You can access the application on the HPILF website <http://www.uchpilf.org/>

### *When will I know if I received a grant? When will the funds be disbursed?*

#### TIMELINE:

**March 19, 2019 at 11:59 PM:** HPILF Grant Applications are due online through Blackbaud (**LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**).

**April 2019:** First round of HPILF Grant Recipients will be announced

**April-May 2019:** Additional Grant Recipients may be announced if more grant money becomes available.

### *Should I look for summer funding outside of HPILF?*

Yes, even though we do our best to fund as many applicants as possible. The HPILF grant is not a guarantee of funding. Search on Hastings Careers Online, [www.psjd.org](http://www.psjd.org) > summer funding, and the [www.uchastings.edu/intranet](http://www.uchastings.edu/intranet) > MyHastings > Sites > Career Development Office > Pages > Fund Your Job > Apply for Summer Funding

**Who do I contact if I have questions about the HPILF grant?** Please direct all your questions about your qualifications to HPILF Co-President Caroline Hill at [caroline.hill@uchastings.edu](mailto:caroline.hill@uchastings.edu). For administrative questions please contact Fairuz Abdullah [abdullah@uchastings.edu](mailto:abdullah@uchastings.edu) in the Career Development Office. The Financial Aid Office is not part of the grant application process. Please only contact them about your financial aid questions.

### *If I receive an HPILF grant, will my financial aid award be impacted over the summer?*

If you receive an HPILF grant and financial aid over the summer (enrolled for summer classes), your living expenses will be reduced by the amount of your grant. However, the tuition amount for your classes will not be impacted.

### *If I applied for an HPILF grant as a 1L, can I apply as a 2L?*

Yes. Regardless of whether you received an HPILF grant or not during your 1L summer, you can apply for a grant as a 2L.

***Does your immigration or citizenship status impact your ability to receive an HPILF grant?***

There are no restrictions on receipt of grants based on your immigration and/or citizenship status.

***What is a qualifying organization?***

In determining which organizations qualify an applicant for funding, HPILF broadly defines the terms “public interest” and “public sector.” Students working with 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations, government agencies, and advocacy or policy groups are all eligible so long as the work has a legal component. While HPILF strives to award grants to students doing a diverse range of work, it is important to remember that “public interest” and “public sector” mean much more than “unpaid.” Accordingly, applicants must articulate how their summer work will serve a community or area in need. Generally, judicial externships are excluded from eligibility. However, certain positions may be considered eligible if it can be shown that the position the student is applying for falls outside the traditional externship role into that of a public interest or public sector position. This is a case-by-case evaluation.

***Who is on the selection committee and what are they looking for?***

A committee composed of UC Hastings faculty, alumni, staff with public interest backgrounds, and public interest/public sector attorneys will evaluate applications for the HPILF Summer Grant. HPILF leadership is not involved in the selection of applicants. They are only responsible for facilitating the process. The review process is merit-based. The highest scores are given to applicants who best demonstrate how their summer jobs, when viewed in relation to their past work and future goals, are part of an overall public service career trajectory. When reviewing students’ applications, the committee considers whether applicants demonstrate the following attributes:

- Strong past, present, and future commitment to public interest/public sector law;
- Ability to contribute to the communities with/for whom they are working; and
- Potential for development and growth as advocates through their summer work.

***What qualifies as “attorney supervision”?***

If a supervising attorney is not available through the applicant’s employer, the applicant must find a professor or other attorney who is willing to provide supervision throughout the summer.

***What if I’m already receiving funding from another source?***

If applicants secure other sources of project-related funding (such as work-study, grants outside of HPILF, fellowships, or family contributions), they MUST report such funding to HPILF as soon as possible by emailing their name and the amount they have accepted from other sources to Caroline Hill at [caroline.hill@uchastings.edu](mailto:caroline.hill@uchastings.edu).

***Employer Certification:***

HPILF does not require an employer verification letter by your employer. You are required to fill out the Employer Verification section of the application. By filling out this section and checking the certification box you are verifying your employment on an honor system. HPILF and the Financial Aid Office may contact your employer to verify the information you provided is accurate.

***Judicial Externships vs. Self Help Centers?***

The HPILF grant does not fund students who are pursuing a judicial externship. However, the reviewers may consider applicants who are working for a “self-help center” within a court where the applicant is assisting low income individuals (pro se/pro per) with their cases because they cannot afford an attorney.