

University of New Mexico School of Law

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**2025 Othmer / APIL Summer Award Application**

Dear Student,

Thank you for your interest in the Association of Public Interest Law (APIL) Summer Award. Submitting the following application will make you a candidate for The Craig Othmer Scholarship and/or any additional funding awards APIL provides for the 2025 Summer.1

**What is “public interest” law?**

APIL believes that the parameters of “public interest law” are quite broad.  We believe that many kinds of legal work might be “public interest,” and we encourage applicants to articulate in their application how their summer work will serve the social or economic needs of their community (on a small or large scale).  For example, past award recipients have worked for non-profits, public criminal law work, and advocacy or pro bono organizations.  Finally, while we do not have a specific type of job in mind (so long as it falls under this broad “public interest” definition), APIL generally looks most favorably on work that has a concrete, positive impact working with New Mexico community members who most need legal support.

1 Additional funding is contingent on receipt of funds by APIL prior to award date.

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

1.Applicants must submit all required application materials (see below) to the APIL Award Committee email, **durhamm@law.unm.edu**, by **11:59 pm on Sunday, March 23, 2025.** Please duplicate and work on this document directly and **submit in docx. format**.

☐ **Completed and Signed Application Form (below);**

☐ **Statement of Interest;**

☐ **Current Resume; and**

☐ **Offer from Host Organization(s) if available at the time of submission.** If not, proof of a public interest position is required by **March 31, 2025**, in order for funds to disburse.

2. Applicants must work at least part-time in a public interest position over the course of the summer.

3. Applicants must work under the supervision of an attorney licensed to practice law. **NOTE:**

1.  The APIL Fellowship Committee has sole discretion over any awards made.

2. Award selection and amounts will be determined by factors including, but not limited to: o the number of applications received;

o the amount of money available from the award fund;

o applicants’ present, and future commitment to public interest work; and

o applicants’ position with a New Mexico organization or issues facing New Mexico residents. (if the position is not based in New Mexico, how can it relate back to issues facing New Mexicans today)

**Application Form**

1. **Personal Information:**

Name:

Address:

Phone:

E-mail:

Class:

2. **Host Organization Information:**  Please provide a written offer from your host organization(s) verifying your employment with them for the summer of 2025*,* ***if available*. If not available, please remember to submit proof of employment by March 31 or you may lose the funding to another applicant.**

Organization:

Address:

Phone:

Supervising Attorney:

Supervising Attorney’s Phone:

How does your host organization serve the New Mexico community (if not in New Mexico, the community where it is located)?

3. **Additional Host Organization(s):**  If you have accepted multiple public interest positions, please provide host organization information regarding the additional position(s).

Organization:

Address:

Phone:

Supervising Attorney:

Supervising Attorney’s Phone:

How does your host organization serve the New Mexico community (if not in New Mexico, the community where it is located)?

**If you will have more than one position over the summer, please describe your summer employment scheduling plans.**

4. **Financial Need:**  Please describe your financial need for summer funding and include a description of any additional funding you will receive during the summer (student loans, other fellowships, scholarships, savings, family financial support, trust funds, etc.).  In addition, please indicate any additional funding for which you have applied but have not yet received a response.  Attach additional documents if needed.

5. **Statement of Interest:**  Please write a statement of interest below (no more than 1,000 words).  Through this statement we hope to gain an understanding of what compels you to work in public interest. In your statement, you may address: (1) your life experience/background that draws you to your summer work, or other relevant personal information; (2) how you hope to contribute to the field of public interest law; (3) why you chose to work for this organization (or these organizations); (4) what you hope to learn and accomplish during your summer work; and/or (5) your perspectives on the importance of public interest work in the legal field.

By signing or typing my name below, I attest that all the information submitted in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, true and accurate.

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Signature of Applicant Date