



## ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION *of the Greater Bay Area*

### **2025 AABA Law Foundation and The Justice Harry W. Low Fellowship**

The Asian American Bar Association of the Greater Bay Area (“AABA”) Law Foundation is pleased to offer the Justice Harry W. Low Fellowship. This Fellowship awards \$10,000 to assist a qualified graduating student to work for public/government agencies or non-profit organizations. Preference is given to candidates working for agencies or organizations that provide representation and advocacy for Asian Pacific American communities or for low-income Asian Pacific Americans (collectively, “Public Service”). Applicants must have or have accepted an offer to work in Public Service. The Low family and the AABA Law Foundation have funded this Fellowship in memory of Justice Harry W. Low.

#### **About Justice Harry W. Low**

Justice Harry W. Low was a pioneer Asian American attorney, judge, and community leader whose life and career have inspired AABA members for decades. Born in 1931 in the Central Valley town of Oakdale, he graduated from UC Berkeley in 1952 and Berkeley Law School in 1955. He served in the California Attorney General's Office from 1956 to 1966. In 1967, Justice Low became the first Asian American judge in San Francisco when he was named to the Municipal Court. He was appointed as a Superior Court judge in 1974 and, in 1982, as a Justice on the First District Court of Appeal, where he became presiding justice in 1983. He retired from the bench in 1992 and joined JAMS, where he served for many years as a much sought after arbitrator and mediator. His post-judicial career also included the presidency of the San Francisco Police Commission, leadership of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, and from 2000-2003, a term as the California Insurance Commissioner. He founded the bilingual Chinese American International School and was named “San Franciscan of the Year” by the San Francisco Forum in 2007. He remained actively working until his passing in December 2021 at age 90. His sons Larry Low and Allan Low are AABA members.

#### **Eligibility**

To be eligible for this fellowship, you must be a graduating 3L law student fulfilling one of the following eligibility requirements:

(a) graduating from a San Francisco Bay Area school (Stanford University, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC Law SF, University of San Francisco, Golden Gate University, Santa Clara University, or McGeorge School of Law) who has or will have a full-time position in Public Service, or

(b) graduating from any law school who has or will have a full-time position in Public Service in the San Francisco Bay Area.

#### **Applicant Requirements/Selection Criteria (Application attached)**

- Employment in a Public Service position
- Demonstrated financial need
- A strong academic record and/or other indicators of future career success
- In-person acceptance of the Fellowship at the AABA Summer Diversity Reception in San Francisco on **June 26, 2025** is expected/encouraged.

- Submission of resume, personal statement and essay. (Refer to instructions attached)

The deadline to submit applications has been extended to **May 16, 2025 at midnight**.

Please email your application to [aaba.bavarea@gmail.com](mailto:aaba.bavarea@gmail.com) with “2025 Harry Low Fellowship Application [your name]” in the subject line. Please submit all materials in one PDF file.

### **Selection**

After receipt of applications, the selection committee will convene and interview the top candidates on **June 7, 2025** (the interviews to be held by video conference ). AABA will award the Fellowship at AABA’s Annual Summer Diversity Reception, June 26, 2025.

In addition to the Applicant Requirements, selection criteria will include past, present and future community service or public interest work for the Asian Pacific American community or other underrepresented communities; and demonstrated leadership in the Asian Pacific American or other underrepresented community.

The AABA Law Foundation also strongly encourages all Fellowship recipients to:

- Become a Law Student Member of AABA; and
- Become a Lawyer Member of AABA upon graduation from law school.

### **Key Dates**

- May 16, 2025 Summer Fellowship applications due.
- June 7, 2025 Interviews of finalists by video conference between 9am - noon
- Mid-June 2025 Recipient to be notified of Fellowship
- June 26, 2025 Recipient recognized at the AABA Summer Diversity Reception at UC Law SF in San Francisco.



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**2025 Justice Harry W. Low Fellowship Application and Instructions**

**Deadline: April 28, 2025**

**Please email your complete application to [aaba.bayarea@gmail.com](mailto:aaba.bayarea@gmail.com)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of AABA? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Law School: \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you the first person in your immediate family to attend law school in the United States?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Law School GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Law School Honors and Activities:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Undergraduate School: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree: \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Undergraduate Honors and Activities:

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Graduate School (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Degree: \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Languages Spoken: \_\_\_\_\_

Fluency: \_\_\_\_\_

Education Level of Father: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation of Father: \_\_\_\_\_

Education Level of Mother: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation of Mother: \_\_\_\_\_

Financial Aid Information:

**Law School Financial Aid Information**

Loans (Federal and Private): \_\_\_\_\_

Grants: \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarships: \_\_\_\_\_

Campus Job or Work/Study Earnings: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Law School Debt as of date of application: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Projected Law School Debt in Entirety: \_\_\_\_\_

Undergraduate Loan Debt: \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Law School Graduate Loan Debt (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Optional Statement of Financial Circumstances:

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## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR LOW FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION**

**In addition to the previous two pages, please submit the following:**

**1. Submit a personal statement, no more than 3 pages, double-spaced, that includes the following:**

- (a) A description of the type of Public Service work that you will pursue;
- (b) A description of your qualifications;
- (c) The name of the Public Service entity with whom you will be working and a reference contact and telephone number;
- (d) A description of any other grants, compensation, or financial aid you will receive while working for the Public Service entity; and
- (e) Additional information beyond what is reflected in your resume regarding your past, present and future community service or public interest work for the Asian Pacific American community or other underrepresented communities; demonstrated leadership in the Asian Pacific American or other underrepresented community; demonstrated financial need; and past, present and future commitment to the Bay Area.

**2. Submit an essay of no more than 3 pages, double-spaced, discussing:**

- (a) Why you have chosen to do Public Service; and/or
- (b) What has been your experience in overcoming economic or other discriminatory barriers, and what role do you see yourself playing in advocating for others faced with economic or other discriminatory barriers?

**3. Law school statement:**

If you are not a law student at or a graduate of a San Francisco Bay Area law school (Stanford University, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC Law SF, University of San Francisco, Golden Gate University, Santa Clara University, or McGeorge School of Law), please explain in a separate statement (no more than one page), your commitment to serving the Asian Pacific American community in the Bay Area.

**4. Submit a resume with the application.**