



Legal Education Police Practices Consortium

Fellowship Program

The ABA Legal Education Police Practices Consortium (LEPPC) has been formed to contribute to the national effort to examine and address legal issues in policing and public safety, including conduct, oversight, and the evolving nature of police work. The Consortium will leverage the ABA's expertise in developing model police practices and that of participating ABA-accredited law schools to collaborate on projects to develop and implement better police practices throughout the United States.

Drawing on the geographic diversity of the ABA and member schools, the Consortium will advance the widespread adoption of model police practices and initiate other projects designed to support effective policing, promote racial equity in the criminal justice system, and eliminate tactics that are racially motivated or have a disparate impact based on race.

Each participating law school will develop opportunities for one law student to engage as a Consortium Fellow. For 2022, Fellows will

- in coordination with their law school, identify one theme of pressing need to be addressed within their local policing department
 - Proposed themes¹ include
 - Officer recruitment, promotion, & demotion criteria
 - Agency policy on use of lethal force
 - Body-worn camera policy and issues relating to implementation
 - Officer training (for both new recruits and in-service officers)
- conduct a police organizational survey to determine local policing contacts and their chain of command and local agencies (to include government and non-governmental agencies, non-profits, civil society organizations, and faith-based institutions) currently working with and/or on policing issues²
- obtain training and internal affairs manuals and, in partnership with the department, determine with what regularity these policies and practices, related to the thematic focus identified above, are reviewed and updated
- create an action plan as necessary and relevant, in partnership with the department for ongoing assessment as well as concrete recommendations as to how policies and

¹ Themes must be identified alongside fellows and included in the [fellowship enrollment form](#). Please note that there are ABA policies/white papers related to select policing themes. These and relevant resources will be provided to fellows upon enrollment.

² The organizational survey will assist Fellows in determining the appropriate stakeholders who might be engaged in the review and updating of appropriate policing policies and practices.

practices might be updated in keeping with the latest research and good practice, including external stakeholders as necessary/appropriate³

Fellows will be recruited and identified by each member law school, who will also be responsible for credit and compensation, as appropriate. Assignments are to be undertaken under the guidance of a designated member of the law school faculty and the ABA LEPPC Director.

Essential Fellowship Functions and Responsibilities:

- Undertake research independently and in coordination with local policing departments
- Work with the ABA LEPPC Director and faculty supervisor to compile and elevate findings
- Participate in bi-weekly calls with other Consortium Fellows & the ABA LEPPC Director
- Conduct gap analysis (as necessary) in collaboration with local policing officials and ABA LEPPC Director to determine opportunities where local policing practices may be modified
- Determine opportunities for implementation of existing ABA policing policies into local policing policies/training
- Assist in relevant content creation (e.g., webinars, podcasts, magazine articles) to further the goals of the Consortium

Required Education, Qualifications, Experience:

- Associated with a Consortium-member law school for the 2021-2022 academic year
 - o As an enrolled student or postgraduate fellow
- Interest in quantitative and qualitative data collection as it relates to policing practices
- Ability to think creatively and collaboratively on pressing issues
- Ability to work independently and remotely
- Willingness to move up/move back to allow for other voices to be heard, promoting an inclusive, respectful, and productive work environment
- Demonstrated ability to work productively and respectfully with stakeholders and others from a diversity of backgrounds and perspectives
- Demonstrated written and interpersonal communication skills
- Fellows will commit approximately (but no more than) 10 hours a week throughout the academic year to the Consortium

³ Fellows may not draft policy statements which could be attributable to the ABA without prior approval of the ABA House of Delegates or the ABA Board of Governors or that conflict with any existing ABA policy. When representing the Consortium, Fellows may not take any positions that would be inconsistent with the [Goals and Mission](#) of the ABA.